

# THE Nonconformist and Independent

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THE  
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THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1880.

THE CLEWER CASE.

THE long and wearisome struggle to "put down Ritualism" at Clewer has at last ended in the utter defeat and rout of the Church Association. The legal issue is, of course, not in the least degree affected by the voluntary resignation which the Rector has now placed in the hands of his Bishop. The question was not whether the Rev. T. T. CARTER would see fit to resign, but whether he could be compelled to obey the law; and in particular whether the Bishop of the diocese could be constrained to put the law in action. This has now been finally decided in the negative, and the result is that bishops are practically empowered to suspend the Act of Uniformity at their pleasure. When the Public Worship Regulation Act was proposed we pointed out that such would be the effect of this delusive measure, so far as its action extended. But it was supposed that the Church Discipline Act of 1840 still afforded, if a more cumbersome, yet a more certain mode of securing legal judgment against illegal Ritual. Acting on this supposition, the promoters of the case against Mr. CARTER elected to proceed under the older law. It is true that in this also the words "it shall be lawful" appeared to empower, rather than compel, the Bishop to prosecute. But there are not wanting cases in which the phrase is held to prescribe a duty; and the adversaries of Mr. CARTER, relying upon the absence of those provisions for the exercise of Episcopal discretion so carefully inserted in the later statute, conceived that the words must be so interpreted in the Church Discipline Act. The Bishop of OXFORD, however, took a different view, and declined to take proceedings. He did not deny that there seemed to be a *prima facie* case against Mr. CARTER. Indeed, it should be borne in mind that, throughout the whole controversy, there has been no dispute as to the illegality of several practices at Clewer, if judged according to authoritative decisions of the Judicial Committee of Council. But the Bishop held that the old law, equally with the new, left it to his discretion whether he would take proceedings or not; and in the exercise of that discretion he judged it expedient to let the Rector of CLEWER alone.

The high character of the latter gentleman and his long laborious work in the parish were obvious reasons for such a course, of which it would be ungracious to deny the force, were it not that the question at issue was no personal matter, but the Protestant character of the Church as by law established. But it appears probable that the ludicrous results of other prosecutions naturally indisposed the Bishop to run the risk of making himself ridiculous. On this the prosecutors applied to the Court of Queen's Bench, and obtained a mandamus against the Bishop, which was supported by the high authority and lucid reasoning of the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE. According to this judgment, the words, "it shall be lawful," were ambiguous, and must be interpreted according to the nature of the subject matter with which they dealt. In this instance it was held that the nature of the case showed that a duty was imposed as to the discharge of which, on sufficient cause shown, the Bishop had no discretion. On this occasion the Bishop had been his own counsel, but, perhaps, calling to mind the proverb as to the sort of client a man has who is his own lawyer, he obtained better assistance on going to the Court of Appeal; and the result was a reversal of the mandamus, and a decision in his favour. The prosecution then carried the case to the House of Lords; but the final decision given last week was decisively against them. The law lords held that the words, "it shall be lawful," are not ambiguous at all; that they clearly give a discretion; and that "there is no public or private right conferred by the statute which requires that the power given to the Bishop" to take proceedings "should be exercised." This, then, is the law of the land, and nothing can henceforward alter it but fresh legislation. But though the law is indisputable, it is permissible to point out some of its bearings, which those who exult in the defeat of the Church Association have, perhaps, a little overlooked. As we believe both that Association and the Church Union to be pursuing an impossible chimera, we have no sectarian feeling as to the bearing of the law either on one or the other. But constitutional principles have an interest for not a few Englishmen outside both those organisations.

Now in this case it strikes us that the prosecutor, who may remain impersonal because he merely represents one of the divisions of a disunited parish, is left without a remedy for an acknowledged

grievance. No one pretends that Church law as laid down by recent Privy Council judgments is observed in Clewer. Least of all does the Rector, for he has resigned because he cannot conscientiously obey it. But the casual relief afforded by the gracious retirement of a conscientious clergyman is one thing, and the certain relief obtained from the impartial action of the law is altogether another. It was this latter that the adherents of the Act of Uniformity in Clewer asked from the Bishop as the representative of the law. To this application one of three answers might have been given consistently with the general principle that there is no wrong without a remedy. It might have been said that no *prima facie* case had been made out; or, secondly, that the wrong alleged was infinitesimal, and *de minimis non curat lex*; or, thirdly, that due legal proceedings should be taken. But the Bishop took none of these courses. He did not deny that the law was disobeyed. He did not allege that the infractions of it were unimportant. But neither would he put the law in action. And this arbitrary position it appears he has a legal right to maintain. Now, either it is no grievance that parishioners cannot have their church observances carried on legally, or else there is here, what we have thought the law did not allow, a wrong without a remedy. And similar cases may arise in any parish in the country under a bishop who refuses to exercise his powers. But further, the power to suspend a law indefinitely would seem in practice hardly distinguishable from the power to repeal it. If so, then the bishops are now declared to be invested with very considerable legislative powers altogether independent of Parliament. The Act of Uniformity is the law of the land; but it is not so in Clewer—at any rate until the present Rector retires—because the Bishop of OXFORD has virtually decreed that so far as Clewer is concerned the Act shall be suspended. That such an incongruous state of things should be tolerated only shows how little importance Englishmen now attach to ecclesiastical affairs. The Church is a great name to conjure with at election times, because it appeals to a variety of deeply-rooted sentiments. But, practically, ecclesiastical proceedings are hardly taken *au sérieux*; so little, indeed, that parishioners may be arbitrarily deprived of their legal church ceremonies without exciting any sympathy except amongst bitter sectaries. How different is the case when parishioners are deprived of their due rights as to water or light. Where is the functionary who would be allowed on his own mere discretion to suspend the law in such a case? But when it is only a church squabble, who cares? Nevertheless, things cannot remain as they are. Either fresh legislation will have to be proposed, or else the contest between Ritualism, Rationalism, and so-called Evangelicalism will become a free scramble. And whichever course be adopted, the inevitable issue is brought so much the nearer.

THE CLERGY AND THE GENERAL ELECTION.

It is somewhat of a novelty in the history of election contests that a serious discussion has arisen as to the party on behalf of which the State Church clergy should on this occasion array themselves. Hitherto they have, with some noteworthy exceptions, been habitually regarded as the very core and centre of the Tory levies, and it is strange to read in a Church newspaper that they are at the present time "somewhat in a dilemma as to how to vote at the approaching election." The reason is not far to seek. Throughout that institution of late years influences have been at work, which in their operation have brought both High Church and Low Church clergy into conflict at various points with those whose support was rendered under the idea that it was a respectable and serviceable department of the State to be utilised in the interests of "order" on certain well-recognised conditions. Neither of the political parties is constituted on lines which exactly square with the hopes and aspirations of either the sacerdotal or the evangelical party, while in regard to each there are for a certain length observable parallelisms. The High Churchman, in his restiveness under State interference in the domain of conscience, strikes a chord of sympathy which vibrates strongly in the breasts of all true Liberals; but the ultimate object of that section of the clergy in throwing off State control is the overthrow of Protestantism, in the struggle to resist which the general sympathies of the Liberals must be with the Low Church clergy. The *Spectator*, which combines with a philosophic Radicalism the staunch support of the principle of an Established Church, has offered some suggestions towards the solution of the problem. "The life of the Establishment," the writer argues, "depends above all things on the maintenance of peace in the Church," and, consequently, any change made in its supposed interest with a view to rendering it "more popular or more active," would be likely to have the fate which attended the Patronage Act in Scotland, in serving to "precipitate the very catastrophe it was meant to prevent." Such mischievous tinkering would be more likely to be attempted under Tory rule; so long as the Liberals are not prepared to disestablish

the Church," argues the writer, "most of them would be inclined to let it alone."

"A Church Dignitary," in a pamphlet letter addressed to the Marquis of Hartington, explains the reasons which have induced him to decide to give his vote at this election, "for the first time in my life to the Liberal candidates." Reviewing the foreign policy of the Tory Government, he pronounces it abortive, delusive, and immoral; their administration has left the country "at this moment less fit to engage in either a defensive or offensive war than she was six years ago." The conclusion at which he has arrived is that "the honour and welfare of the Church of England are concerned in helping to turn the present Government out of office;" and as to the dangers supposed to be attendant upon the advent of a Liberal Government to power, he declares, "I have no doubt the Liberal party will deal justly with the Church if the Church will only deal justly with the Liberal party." It is evident, however, that considerations somewhat less expansive than those which have occupied the thoughts of "A Church Dignitary" are accounted of weight, in some minds, in determining this knotty question. The Vicar of South Acton, in a pastoral addressed to his parishioners, finds an adequate motive for the support of the Tory candidates for Middlesex in the fact that they had taken part in ceremonies connected with the commencement of the structures of a school-room and a parsonage house within the parochial boundaries. How could any thought of the policy which led to the condemnation of the massacres of Bulgaria, and the slaughter of thousands during the unjustifiable invasions of Afghanistan and Zululand, be allowed to interfere with the discharge of the "debt of gratitude" thus incurred to Mr. Coope, "a munificent contributor to the school building fund," and to Lord George Hamilton, "who gave us at the time"—the vicar is evidently in a humour to be thankful for cheap favours—"an address?"

There are some clergymen, however, who, while extending their thoughts beyond parochial boundaries and questions of bricks and mortar, do not hesitate to declare that they shall acquit themselves in this matter as "Churchmen first and politicians afterwards." The Rev. E. J. A. Fitzroy rallies High Churchmen to the standard of Lord Beaconsfield on the ground that eight members of his Ministry voted against the Public Worship Regulation Act, and that his lordship has nominated six bishops with High Church proclivities; another correspondent of the *Church Times* inclines to Mr. Gladstone on account of the opposition which he gave to that measure. The Church Association calls upon electors to vote only for candidates who will support measures tending to expel Ritualism from the State Church, and the Ritualists call upon Churchmen to give no support to candidates who will not vote for the repeal of the Public Worship Act. Major Duncan, in Finsbury, who is said to have satisfied the Church Association by a public declaration, and the Church of England Working Men's Society by a "private pledge," is commended by Mr. C. Powell as "the best of the three" candidates on the ground that he professes to be "No persecutor," and is "in favour of allowing the bishops discretion;" but Mr. W. A. Frost withholds his support, the Major having "expressed the opinion that priests ought to be made to obey their bishops." The appointment of the Low Church Dr. Ellicott to the see of Gloucester is charged against the Liberals as an offence to High Churchmen; but such objectors are reminded that Dr. Ellicott himself is "as bigoted a Tory as he is a Churchman, and never loses an opportunity of pronouncing Mr. Gladstone 'a charlatan,' &c." On one hand, it is urged that the Liberals are "in favour of handing over our churchyards to schismatics," and on the other, that the Tories, believing that the Church already possesses "quite enough power and influence to be politically comfortable and safe to them," are not disposed to "remove one of its State fetters, nor increase its self-governing powers in any way." And so, those who desire to invest their votes in the manner best calculated to bear interest in promoting the power of clericalism, appear to be in some difficulty in deciding the course which they will pursue. Mr. J. D. Sedding, taking a more comprehensive view of the duty involved, expresses his opinion that "a crisis like this should bring us out of the miserable little cockleshell of Church partisanship;" that the united efforts of the clergy, as friends of Christianity and humanity, should be directed to freeing the country from "a Government of fire, famine, and slaughter, that even now holds an English army in battle array, to lay waste more Afghan territory, if the verdict of the nation be in their favour."

We cannot indulge any sanguine expectations that such a lofty motive as this will influence the votes of many of the State Church clergy. As it was on the question of slavery, and has been in reference to well-nigh every reform which has been subsequently agitated, the bulk of the clergy will only too surely at this crisis, on one pretext or another, be found, with the utmost zest, employing their votes and influence for the maintenance of Toryism in its most truculent form, and in all its most indefensible developments.

As the shadow follows the substance, so with the dissolution of Parliament, Convocation also expired. Even in clerical circles little respect can be entertained for an organisation which possesses neither legislative power nor representative authority. Pending the attempt to restore its legislative functions, for which the English public are manifestly not yet prepared, various plans have been mooted, with a view to rendering its constituent elements more faithful exponents of clerical thought and feeling; but the promoters are encountered by the difficulty that State patronage is



inseparably bound up with State trammels, and that, consequently, the consent of the Legislature is necessary to any structural change, in the nature of an extension of the constituency, or an increase of the number of proctors. It is permissible, however, in the view of the Bishop of LONDON, for the beneficed clergy of an archdeaconry, to employ "polling papers in the selection of proctors; and his lordship intimates his intention, on all occasions, "to select for proctor the clergyman who, in each archdeaconry, shall receive the largest number of votes, unless informed by that clergyman himself that he declines to serve."

The gloom which at one time settled so heavily over the Central African Mission of the London Missionary Society seems now to be happily dispersing. The completion of systematic arrangements for the transmission of letters to and from the interior has successfully removed one source of disquietude, and reinforcements for the Mission, consisting of the Rev. A. J. WOOLKEY, from Bechuanaland, Mr. W. S. PALMER, a fully-qualified medical man, and Mr. DAVID WILLIAMS, a student from Western College, purpose setting forth from this country for Ujiji on the 15th inst. A native guide will conduct the expedition from the coast to Mpwapwa, whence it is hoped that Dr. SOUTHWORTH will be able to accompany them for the rest of the route. From South Africa we have the melancholy tidings of the death of the Rev. JOSEPH COCKIN, one of the band of missionaries sent forth from this country in 1877. Mr. COCKIN was stationed in South Africa, in an elevated region known as Hope Fountain, Amantabele Land, where the temperature is so far from being of a torrid character that "fires and woollen clothes" are often found to be necessary. "Here," says a writer in the *Bradford Observer*, "Mr. COCKIN had a fairly healthy residence, but it fell to him to descend into the lower country, to go as a deputation to Bechuanaland to fetch stores for himself and the other three missionary families who reside in Amantabele Land. This journey in the hot and wet season necessitated his crossing two water-soaked valleys, in which an almost perpendicular sun was generating miasma. He had a slight attack of fever and ague on the way, and again as he arrived at the residence of the Rev. J. D. HEPBURN, Shoshong, on Thursday, January 29. On Saturday he was present at a church members' prayer meeting. On Sunday he became very ill; on Monday morning he revived and was better; but in the evening a change set in for the worse, and on Tuesday, Feb. 3, he died at five o'clock p.m. When Mr. COCKIN was ordained at Salem Chapel, Bradford, March 12th, 1877, the Rev. J. B. THOMSON described the field of labour to which he was going. Mr. W. A. DODGSHUN, then about to be ordained, and a close college companion of Mr. COCKIN—indeed, they were as brothers—was also present. All three are now dead, having fallen victims to the African climate. Mr. COCKIN leaves a widow and an infant daughter."

The French Government has not shrunk from adopting the course which M. FREYCINET pointed out as the logical consequence of the rejection of the compromise embodied in Clause 7 of the Education Act. On Tuesday the official documents were published; in these the fact is noted that the census of 1877 showed nearly 500 non-authorized corporations, comprising nearly 22,000 persons of both sexes. These are placed in two divisions. As to the Jesuits, an organisation "which has been at various times prohibited, and against which the national sentiment has been at all times pronounced," three months are appointed during which they are to evacuate the establishments which they occupy in France, the interval being prolonged to the 31st of August in respect of the establishments "in which literary or scientific instruction is given by the association to the young." The total number of the Jesuit establishments is said to be 56, with 1,480 members, of which 22, with 475 members, would not have been affected by Clause 7. The other non-authorized communities are, during the next three months, to present their statutes and apply for authorisation. The *Pays* threatens endless litigation on the part of the Jesuits; but the *Ordre*, another Bonapartist organ, declares that "the legality of the decrees is incontestable, and will not be seriously contested." Bishop FREPPEL, in a letter just published, promises the Jesuits that there will be arrayed in their defence "the entire Episcopate, and supported by all the clergy and faithful Catholics," and the clerical organs declare that, with the Jesuits, the other non-authorized congregations will make common cause. The *Temps* probably expresses a very prevalent opinion in French circles, when it remarks, "Liberty of association does not exist in France, and no law creates a privilege for the religious congregations."

There appears to have been for some time past, in France, a positive premium upon violation of the law, for the authorised orders pay a tax on mortmain property, which the unauthorised orders have hitherto escaped. The competition which is carried on by the convents with private traders, who have to take out licences from which the "religious" traders are exempt, is felt to be a grievance. Some of these institutions carry on the work of distillers of alcoholic liquors; others sell corn, wood, wine, make clothes, work quarries, and lodge man and beast. In the department of the Seine eighty-nine industrial establishments are in the hands of nuns, who give employment to 5,605 workwomen. We may expect assuredly that these vestiges of inequality will be swept away as a result of the present turn of events.

A telegram from Berlin intimates that the Prussian Government intend at the supplementary session of the Diet to ask for full powers to enable them to administer the Ecclesiastical laws with less vigour. In the

*Grenzboten*, edited by VON BUSCH, Prince BISMARCK'S intimate associate, reference is made to the desire manifested by LEO XIII., to bring about a reconciliation with the German Empire. The astute writer is evidently not deluded by this change of front. "The advances of the present POPE," it is remarked, "are to be gratefully accepted; but, of course, they do not imply a change of principle in the policy of Rome. The tactics and the means employed are altered, and may become even more so, but the system remains the same as the end in view. Therefore the barrier which we were obliged to erect for protection against incursions on the territory of the State by those endeavouring to attain that end must likewise remain." The *Français*, the principal organ of the Clerical party in France, discussing the effect of the POPE'S letter to the Archbishop of COLOGNE, points out that the "submission of candidates to the civil authorities," there enjoined, entails, as a necessary corollary, the right of opposition on the part of the civil governor of the province to the institution of an ecclesiastic to any benefice for non-fulfilment of the legal conditions by the candidate, for legal impediments incurred by him, or if he be thought likely to resist the State laws. Such are the tactics which "the Conciliatory POPE," as the *Grenzboten* designates the present occupant of the Vatican, thinks it prudent to substitute for the *Non possumus* of PIUS IX., which wrought such disaster to the Papacy.

Sensationalism appears to be by no means eschewed in Roman Catholic pulpits, when a rhetorical triumph is to be achieved, or a tactical purpose to be served. A fluent Dominican monk, Father OLIVER, preaching in the Church of the Trinity, Paris, in the midst of his discourse, defiantly declared that he was ready to bet any person 50,000 francs that the French Republic would not last for ten years. Finding there were no takers, he, after a pause, exultingly exclaimed, "Ah, you perceive, my brethren, that no one dares to take up my bet; no one believes in the continuation of the Republic." A few days having elapsed, and the subject having been commented upon, it was resolved by a knot of Republicans to subscribe the requisite sum, and accept the monk's challenge. Upon the intimation being made to the orator that the amount named was ready to be staked, Father OLIVER thought it wise to abandon his braggart air, and seek the best means of escaping from the absurd position in which he had placed himself. He had thus to submit to the humiliation of confessing that his loud vaunting words should only have been accepted by hearers as "sound and fury, signifying nothing," a conclusion which his hearers will, in future, probably not be slow to extend to other portions of the injudicious orator's deliverances.

## Correspondence.

### MIDDLESEX ELECTION.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist and Independent*.

SIR,—The Nonconformist electors of Middlesex have now a rare opportunity of showing their admiration for Mr. Gladstone, and at the same time of doing good service for their country. Mr. Herbert Gladstone is "a splendid young fellow," a worthy son of an illustrious father. Those who have had the opportunity of seeing and hearing him—in some cases under very trying circumstances—must have been struck with his frank and open countenance, his manly bearing, his grasp of great principles, his intimate acquaintance with England's political history, his sympathy with the free aspirations of the nation, his candour to opponents, his self-possession in face of the interruptions of the Tory roughs, and his wonderful power of turning their ribald shafts against themselves and their cause. He is a candidate that any constituency may well be proud of. Middlesex may now honour itself by returning him as one of its Members.

The contest has come upon us suddenly. The time is short in which any of us can work for his return. It will be shorter still when this letter sees the light in your issue on Thursday. Then there will be two days and nights only in which anything we do can be of any avail. But these two days and nights, if wisely and energetically used, may turn the scale of the election, and win the seat for Mr. Gladstone.

Let every Liberal elector act as if on him the issue depended. The election in South Derbyshire, a few years ago, was lost to the Liberal cause by the want of a single vote. At any cost I hope every Nonconformist elector will go early on Saturday morning and vote for Gladstone. Never mind the distance, never mind the weather, never mind the inconvenience—go and plump for Gladstone. Yes, plump for Gladstone, and do your utmost to induce others to do the same. There are some voters who, because they have two votes, think they may as well use them both; and as they can give only one to Gladstone, will mean to give the other to one of the Tory candidates. All such electors should be told that by doing so they may open the door for Mr. Gladstone's return with one hand, and shut it against him with the other.

But voting, though the most important, is not the only way of helping on the good cause. Canvassing may multiply indefinitely a man's voting power at the ballot-box. Will not some one who reads this letter go and call on some neighbour or friend, and try, by argument and persuasion, to lead him in a right direction? And others, who have conveyances of different kinds, may go and offer their services to the local committees in helping to take the voters to the poll.

Brother electors, for the honour of Old England, and in the sacred cause of righteousness, peace, and freedom, let every lover of the cause determine, at this crisis, to do his duty; and may Heaven defend the right! March 30, 1880.

AN OLD WHIG.

### LONDON UNIVERSITY ELECTION.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist and Independent*.

SIR,—The nomination of candidates at the University to-day was a very tame affair. The writ was read; the speakers simply moved and seconded the nominations; neither of them made a speech; neither candidate was present; no questions were asked. The voting was, of course, very largely in favour of Mr. Lowe; but the attendance of graduates was comparatively small. My object in writing is to express a very earnest hope that this is not significant of wide-spread indifference among the graduates. This is the first attempt made by the Conservatives to win the seat, and there may be no probability that they will be successful. But it must be regarded as a beginning, as a means of educating the University to the possibility of being represented by a Conservative, and as a means of precipitating into a compact mass what is now an unknown quantity in solution. Then let the attempt be shown to be hopeless. By a very large majority let it be manifest that a Conservative has not a chance of success. Stop future contests by a determined effort now. Nip the budding Toryism in the bud. To every constituency I would say, in the present crisis the question is one of confidence or no confidence in the present Government, and if we do not quite like the Liberal candidates let us nevertheless vote for them to our utmost, simply because they are Liberals; poll up even in a losing election, so as to make a Conservative majority as small as possible; poll up to full strength where success is certain to strengthen the Liberal cause as much as possible. And especially in a constituency of highly educated men let the vote be clear, strong, decisive, saying, *We do not want a Conservative member or a Conservative Government. Let me, then, express a hope that every graduate of the University of London will spare no trouble to vote in person or to send up his proxy before the poll closes on Monday next.* Yours truly,

March 30, 1880.

A GRADUATE.

### THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, TOOTING.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist and Independent*.

SIR,—In our former communication we dealt mainly with the question of the property and its origin. We desire now to add a statement with regard to the origin of the congregation, and the meaning of the words quoted by the presbytery from the trust-deed; and we do so in order to explain still further the ground of our action to prevent the alienation of the property.

In the petition recently presented to the London Presbytery by Dr. Anderson and the church at Tooting, admission is sought into the fellowship of the Presbyterian Church of England, and it is added, "to which the congregation owes its origin, and with which it was connected during the first hundred years of its history."

The Presbyterian Church of England was formed in 1876 by the union of the portion of the United Presbyterian Church situated in England, and the Presbyterian Church in England. The United Presbyterian Church was formed in 1847 by the union of two bodies of Christians which left the Church of Scotland, the one in 1733, and the other in 1752, and the Presbyterian Church in England only dates back to 1844; previous to that date it was known as "The Presbyterian Church in England in connection with the Church of Scotland," and that only dates as far back as 1836. Dr. Anderson and his friends say the church at Tooting was founded in the year 1836, so that no branch of the Presbyterian Church of England was in existence when the church was formed.

In agreeing to recommend the application to the favourable consideration of the Synod, it is stated that in coming to this decision, the Presbytery has in view the fact that the action of the memorialists "seems to be distinctly within the rights of the memorialists as defined by the trust deeds of their church and endowments, which admit of their being available for either the Presbyterian or Independent denomination."

It must be remembered that the deed is dated 1766, and in construing its language we must inquire what was the meaning of the words at the time, and not merely what do the words mean now. The words are, "for Protestant Dissenters of the Presbyterian or Independent denomination." The reference is clearly to one denomination, and not to two, as the Presbytery state. The Presbyterians and Independents were one. In 1691 a basis of union was assented to by the united ministers in and about London, formerly called Presbyterian and Congregational, and this union was followed by associations throughout England, which continued in full operation so long as the English Presbyterians kept their old faith. They retained the name Presbyterian, but nothing more. They were really Congregational, their congregations being entirely independent of each other, and united together only as they were united with Independents, and, therefore, the Independents alone can represent the two bodies so united and referred to in the deed.

In a book entitled, "The Presbyterian Church of England," and published by the Synod of that Church, the Rev. Professor Lorimer, D.D., speaking of the Old English Presbyterians, says, "Still calling themselves by their old distinctive name, they differed in almost nothing else from the Congregationalists or Independent Nonconformists, a fact which they virtually confessed in 1691, by entering into what was called 'The Happy Union,' first in London, and afterwards in all parts of the kingdom, in which the Presbyterians gave up almost all the ecclesiastical principles which had been so ably formulated and defended by their Elizabethan and Westminster predecessors, while the Independents, on their side, had to give up scarcely anything either of their principles or practice. Town and country associations, exercising no discipline or jurisdiction, everywhere in the next century took the place of presbyteries and synods."

We see no ground on which the Presbyterian Church of England can claim to represent those who in England were called Presbyterian in 1766. The various sections which now unitedly form the Presbyterian Church of England are all of Scotch origin, and left the Established Church of Scotland at various times, and do not answer to other words to be found in the deed—viz., "Protestant Dissenters from the present Established Church of England." It will be seen from this and our former letter that, whether we consider the trust-deed, the origin of the property, or the history of the church, Congregationalists alone are entitled to use the buildings,



and Congregational ministers alone to enjoy the benefit of the endowments.

ALBERT SPICER, Chairman of Committee.  
ANDREW MEARNS, Secretary.  
London Congregational Union,  
Memorial Hall, E.C., March 31, 1880.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist and Independent.

SIR,—A letter appeared in the *Mid Surrey Gazette* of March 20 from Dr. Anderson in answer to one from the Rev. F. Fox Thomas. As some of the statements in Dr. Anderson's letter are calculated to mislead, we, the deacons of the church at the time referred to, ask you for an opportunity of correcting them.

Dr. Anderson challenges Mr. Thomas's right to say that the church at Tooting was a truly Congregational one at the time of Mr. Thomas leaving it, because, as he avers, not one of the deacons was a Congregationalist. The fact is, that all the deacons were truly Congregationalists, for though they believed in adult baptism, their views on this subject in no way interfered with the Congregational character and government of the church of which they were deacons, neither did it, for a moment, disturb the harmony which always existed between them, the church, and its pastor. It was, as an Independent or Congregational church, that Dr. Anderson was invited to become its pastor, and he accepted the invitation, professing to be an Independent or Congregational minister. In conformity with these facts, we, the deacons, in our application to the Court of Chancery, stated in our affidavit that the money we paid into the Court was subscribed for, and received by us for, the erection of a chapel house, or place of residence, for the minister of the Independent or Congregational church at Tooting. In trust for that purpose, the Court of Chancery received the money, and duly stated that fact in the receipts given to us for the amount, and we should suppose that Dr. Anderson and the church at Tooting could only have obtained the money from the Court by representing that it would be used by them for the purpose for which it was subscribed.

Dr. Anderson states that prior to Mr. Thomas becoming the pastor of the church at Tooting, a proposition had been made for erecting a dwelling house for the minister of the church. With reference to this statement we can assure your readers that two of us deacons were members of that church for twenty-four years, including the period of Mr. Thomas's pastorate, and that we were well acquainted, during the whole of that time, with all the matters concerning the church, and can most positively affirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, no such proposition was ever made by the church until the year 1859, when Mr. Thomas had been its pastor for about seven years. Dr. Anderson further states that during the nine years of Mr. Thomas's pastorate about £30 was collected for what was called the proposed chapel house, and about £20 after a sermon that was preached by the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, making altogether, he says, £55 13s. 4d. Now the real fact is, that the date on which the obtaining of a chapel house was first suggested was at the annual tea meeting of the church held on the 16th of March, 1859, being about two years before Mr. Thomas left. The first subscription was received by the treasurer on the 7th of March, 1860, and by the 7th of November, in the same year, the amount collected and promised warranted the committee, at a meeting held on that date, to pass the following resolution: "Agreed that Mr. Lucas's terms for the site of the proposed chapel house be accepted, and the erection of the house be begun directly."

This, as will be seen, was all done in about eight months, without any public appeal, except Mr. Spurgeon's sermon. If Mr. Thomas had remained at Tooting, the chapel house would soon have been erected. How far Dr. Anderson's assertions agree with these facts, we leave your readers to judge.

Dr. Anderson states, "He has been informed that Mr. Thomas left Tooting in consequence of the failure of the chapel house scheme and stormy church meetings." We give these statements the most unqualified contradiction, and aver that there is not a shadow of truth in them. Mr. Thomas was most highly esteemed, and beloved by all the members of the church and congregation, and nothing can be ever said to lower him in the estimation of those who had his acquaintance. From the circumstance of a larger sphere of ministerial usefulness being offered to Mr. Thomas at Torquay, he felt it to be his duty to leave Tooting, and not, as is untruthfully stated, from any cause connected with the state of the church or congregation in their relation to him. We well remember the deep feeling of sorrow manifested by all who were present at the meeting when he announced his resignation of the pastorate, and this could be confirmed by those now living who were present at that meeting.

Dr. Anderson says that he finds only fifty members were added to the church during the nine years Mr. Thomas was its pastor. We have not any copy of the church books, and cannot say whether this statement is, or is not, correct. We do, however, know that, under the guidance of Mr. Thomas, the church was very careful in admitting members, and we well remember that during the last year of Mr. Thomas's ministry much good was being done by his preaching to several members of the congregation, and at the time he left several candidates were waiting to be received into church fellowship, as the fruits of his ministry. Since Mr. Thomas left, the means of access to Tooting by railway have been greatly developed, and the population of the place and neighbourhood has been considerably increased, yet the present congregation of the chapel is not one third of what it was when Mr. Thomas was the minister there; this we state on good authority. If Dr. Anderson has admitted into the church the number he states, it must be painful for him to find that the greater part of them should have left, and be worshipping with other congregations.

Dr. Anderson says, "We have raised more than double the amount of money." With regard to this we have only to say that after Dr. Anderson had been minister of the chapel about two years, we, who were the deacons at the time, found that the revenues of the church began to diminish. We well remember what was done by the church and congregation in 1860, the last year of Mr. Thomas's pastorate, not only for the minister, but also for the London Missionary Society, and other charitable societies, for which collections were made and subscriptions obtained. All the accounts of such collections were then kept separate, and all such moneys were then strictly applied to the purposes for which they were subscribed. We have no doubt whatever that more money during the year was then raised for these societies than is obtained for them at the present time.

We remain, Sir, your most obedient servants,  
EBENEZER MEDCALF,  
JOHN HUNT,  
JOHN T. G. DODD.

#### A BURIAL SCANDAL.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist and Independent.

SIR,—Linnie Johnson, a much-afflicted child, ten years old, died last Friday. Her parents having two children buried in St. Stephen's churchyard, Tunbridge, very naturally desired that this one should be laid with them. Arrangements were accordingly made for her to be buried there on Tuesday. Miss Allnutt arranged also that the school children should sing over the grave. But on Monday the vicar—Rev. R. L. Allnutt—sent to say that he had heard on good authority that the child had never been christened, and therefore he could not allow it to be interred in the ordinary way, but offered to send his curate to read the burial service at the house, and then the mourners might take the remains to the grave in silence. To this the bereaved parents would not submit. In a so-called Christian land they refused to have their dear girl buried like a dog; so at only a day's notice they had to get another grave at the cemetery, and someone else to conduct the funeral. Thus their grief was vastly increased, and so were their expenses and trouble—all because of the dogma of infant sprinkling, which is not taught by a single text in the whole Bible, either directly or even by implication—which broad statement I challenge Mr. Allnutt or anyone else to disprove. Why was this child denied Christian burial? Was it that the vicar really believed that because no clergyman had christened her she had perished for ever? Such a doctrine is too barbarous even to be soberly denounced. Or was it only because the Church of England forbids it? Then such tyranny ought not to be tolerated twenty-four hours longer. Englishmen ought to demand the disestablishment of anything that so oppresses the poor—for such a refusal I never heard of in relation to the rich. Either supposition is utterly repugnant to a Christian mind. No one could conceive of Jesus Christ acting so, and yet these. His professed followers, dare to do it in His name.

What a shriek of execration would be heard if a Baptist refused to bury a person because they had not been immersed! But which is worse?—that, or the vicar's refusal? Besides, the Church is not consistent. In this very family there is a daughter who has been confirmed but never christened; and Mr. Allnutt prepared her for confirmation without once asking about christening. Yet wounded feelings must be trampled under foot in order to adhere to the Prayer-Book! Surely the day must soon come when such an anomaly will be swept away!

T. HANCOCKS, Baptist Minister.

Dry Hill Park, Tunbridge, March 25, 1880.

#### RELIEF OF IRISH DISTRESS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist and Independent.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the following contributions for the Relief of Irish Distress:—

	£	s.	d.
Per James Clarke, Esq., <i>Christian World Office</i> ...	14	15	0
" Rev. C. R. Howell, Hastings (collection) ...	5	0	0
" Rev. J. L. French, Winslow (collection) ...	2	10	3
Miss Noel, White Grange, Surrey ...	1	0	0
Per John C. Dennis, Esq., Ilfracombe (collection) ...	11	11	9
" James Rooker, Esq., Bideford (collection) ...	8	3	9

Of the above contributions, all but the first, according to private advice, have been handed to the Mayor of Derry, local treasurer for relief in County Donegal. The balance I have in part appropriated, through friends, who will apply it chiefly for the purchasing of seed for poor and suffering small holders of land, whose state is even worse than that of many who apply to the Relief Committee.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

Londonderry, March 29, 1880. ROBERT SEWELL.

#### NOTES FROM TASMANIA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

HOBART TOWN, Feb. 4, 1880.

We scarcely note the many and great changes as they take place to which we are subjected. A discovery recently made, or an object newly gained, produces a temporary excitement; but the continued possession begets familiarity, and we soon regard it as an ordinary matter. It is only by looking back through a series of years, and comparing the past with the present, that we become conscious of the progress we have made, and how much better the latter times are than the former. Thirty years ago it was considered a wonderful attainment if we got news from the old country under a hundred days—now, by means of the telegraph, we are in daily communication with almost the whole civilised world. Then, the voyage from England to Australia occupied, on an average, four months; and now it may be accomplished in almost as many weeks. Letters and papers were transmitted at distant and irregular intervals; and now it is within the range of passability that there will be a weekly delivery. We are wont to commend the human skill by which such results have been brought about, but we should not forget Him by whom the capacity for exercising them has been conferred, and who, by His imperceptible influence, teaches men to use them for the benefit of their fellow-men.

Our coalition Ministry is for the present working very well. The Treasurer has had the unpleasant duty imposed on him of suggesting additional taxation; but as the necessity for it to uphold the credit of the colony is generally acknowledged, he has received support from all parties. His measures are still under discussion, but will doubtless be carried through both Houses with slight modifications. He proposes a property-tax of 9d. in the pound, and some alterations in the Customs, applying the *ad valorem* principle more widely, and also an Excise duty of 3d. a gallon on beer. He hopes by these measures to raise a sufficient revenue to meet the expenditure of the colony.

Our Governor, Mr. Weld, has given several intimations lately of his speedy removal from his present post,—his gubernatorial term expiring during the present year. He has, on the whole, exercised his authority with discretion and impartiality. From no fault of his own, he has for a time been surrounded by incapable and politically unprincipled counsellors. They concealed and misrepresented facts, and obtained his sanction to papers of which, when more fully informed, he disapproved. They have, however, received the due reward of their deeds, and are publicly regarded with contempt. The departure of Mr. Weld will be viewed both with complacency and regret. With complacency by the Protestant, with regret by the Romanist and part of the community. Both Mr. and Mrs. Weld belong to old Roman Catholic families, and adhere strictly to their

principles. We have no reason to complain of any undue prominence given by them to their faith—but it is the private influence which they necessarily have over the weak-minded, who like to bask in the favour of the great, that we feel to be hurtful. An illustration of this was supplied the other day in the opening of a new Romish church at Newtown, about two miles from town. Many gentlemen and ladies attended and subscribed liberally who were only drawn thither by the presence of his Excellency and lady. We hope our next Governor will prove a consistent Protestant.

You are soon to be favoured with the presence of another colonial bishop. The Tasmanian prelate thinks that after sixteen years' expatriation a visit to England will be a pleasant change. He has consequently made his arrangements to leave this next month, and will be accompanied by his son, the Dean of the Cathedral. This latter gentleman has very strong sympathies with the party of Messrs. Tooth and Mackonochie. My opinion is that his visit bodes no good to Protestantism in this colony. The general respect in which he is held for his activity and philanthropy only makes his influence more dangerous.

The Presbyterians have just lost one of their foremost ministers. The Rev. Mr. Duff, of Evandale, came to Tasmania about seven years ago in search of health. Finding the climate congenial, he took charge of a vacant church, where he has laboured with good success, but is now returning to Scotland in accordance with some engagement entered into before he left it. The Wesleyans of Hobart Town will also have to mourn the removal of Rev. B. Butcher, whose continuance in the circuit the Conference declines to sanction. Mr. Butcher, is one of those earnest and courageous men who call things by their right names, and who fear neither man nor devil. As a decided Protestant he took a prominent part in upholding Pastor Chiniquy, and as a firm teetotaler he has waged incessant war against public houses. His removal just now causes much disappointment.

Our summer weather forms a great contrast to what you had during the summer months. It is with us very dry and very warm, although by no means equal to what the people have in the other colonies. The consequence is, we are just now receiving many visitors, who come to escape their own furnace, and to get a little cool breeze. Our harvest is also likely to be abundant, and I hope this fact will induce a liberal response to the appeals for assistance to relieve the famishing Irish which are just now being issued.

#### NOTES FROM NEW SOUTH WALES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

SYDNEY, January 28, 1880.

On intelligence being received a few weeks ago of the actual condition of the Irish—for there had been doubts expressed on the subject—steps were promptly and vigorously taken to secure a handsome gift from New South Wales to relieve the sufferers. Living, as we do, in plenty, with scarcely a single case of absolute want in our midst, except as the result of vice, it is not easy to fully realise all the misery included in the word famine. But it is felt to be a cry from suffering humanity, and from the old country, and the response has been prompt and hearty. Already £3,500 has been sent from Sydney to the Mayor of Dublin, and it is expected that more than £10,000 will have been subscribed when the lists are closed.

The topics of interest for the past month are chiefly ecclesiastical and denominational. There have been two ordinations. One of Mr. S. W. Asher, as assistant pastor to the church at North Shore, to superintend the branch churches and North Willoughby and Longueville. Mr. Asher has for some time past been labouring with much acceptance as a lay preacher at Newcastle, and has more recently been attending lectures at the College. The ordination service was well attended, the Revs. J. Jefferis, LL.B., T. Gairford, T. Johnson, and others taking part. The other ordination is that of Mr. E. Adams, to the pastorate of the English churches amongst the miners in Wallsend, Lambton, and Minnie. Mr. Adams comes to us from the Methodist United Churches, having been a junior minister amongst them for a few years, and having won the esteem of all with whom he has been associated. He greatly prefers our mode of government, and comes amongst us not only with much true Christian zeal, but with valuable experience in having been situated amongst miners. His ordination service was well attended, and was conducted by ministers from Sydney and the district.

The Church Extension Society has been making the annual grants. The total amount granted was £510, to be distributed amongst eleven churches, but only in nine grants, some of the smaller churches being grouped together. It has been well pointed out that six of these grants are to the country, showing that these suburban churches much more quickly become self-supporting, and that multiplying small places in the country makes a perpetual drain on our resources. A few other grants have yet to be made.

Anniversary services have been held at Newcastle Congregational Church, of which the Rev. R. Rogers is now the pastor. There has been great success during the past year, both spiritually and financially. Forty members have been added to the church. The church property has been wonderfully altered—the church doubled in its size, a school-room built, and the manse thoroughly renovated.

The Wesleyan Conference commenced its Session last week. Dr. Kelyack has been chosen president. The statistical report shows an increase both in hearers and church members. It is hoped that before this year is closed the handsome new college buildings at Stanmore will be sufficiently completed for the college and school to take possession.

The new Congregational church in Bourke-street will probably be opened next month, and that in Burwood the month after.

The *John Williams* missionary barque arrived here on the 4th inst., with Revs. G. A. Turner, M.D., and F. E. Lawes and their respective families on board. Missionary services are being, consequently, held in most of our churches.

On the 21st the *John Wesley* (Wesleyan Mission barque) arrived in a most dilapidated condition. She was bound for New Britain from Fiji, with Rev. George Browne and native teachers on board, but met a hurricane off the Solomon group, and with such disastrous results that she has come on to Sydney. She lost her mainmast, boats, and in indeed everything on board. Her escape was marvellous. Providentially no life was lost.

Parliament is making but slow progress this Session, and measures eagerly anticipated by many are in danger of being altogether shelved. Tedious debates on trivial questions, apparently only started for purposes of obstruction, are



absorbing valuable time; while the Education Bill still remains in committee, the Church and School Land Bill and Electoral Bill have not passed their second reading, and hosts of questions such as water supply, sewerage, extension of railways into the city, and city and suburban tramways are in danger of being altogether set aside. The Treasurer has been defeated in an attempt to increase his revenue by excise duties on wine, beer, and tobacco. He is now busy with the Stamp Duties Bill, endeavouring to revive a past source of revenue.

The International Exhibition still attracts great numbers. On anniversary day the attendance was 27,500. There is an International Horse Show being held on the grounds, and which is said to be one of the largest and best ever held in Australia.

Persistent attempts were made by a few enthusiasts to get the notorious bushrangers, Scott and Rogan, reprieved, but without avail, and both were executed on the 19th inst. The life of the former has a tinge of romance about it, and not a few are disposed still to regard him as a bit of a hero. With such versatility of talents that he could at one and the same time be robbing banks and acceptably supplying church pulpits as a lay reader, he was dangerous enough; and with a long list of various crimes laid to his charge the world was well rid of him.

#### INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE DAUGHTERS OF MISSIONARIES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist and Independent.

SIR,—I hope that Mrs. Pye-Smith's letter, and your editorial note, will draw the attention of some of your readers to the urgent claims of the Mission School for Girls, and the need of immediate and generous help from those who feel an interest in the welfare of the children of devoted missionaries who are obliged to leave them in this country while they go abroad in our stead to preach the Gospel to the heathen. I am astonished to find that there is so much difficulty in obtaining the necessary money for the new building, but I am quite willing to believe that the reason of the neglect is not because of any want of interest, but from an entire ignorance of the necessity of the institution. We only want between £20,000 and £27,000 just now, and yet we do not know where to look for it. Some kind friends have given liberal donations, but we want others to follow their example. It would require a very small effort on the part of Evangelical Christians in this country to complete this work, especially as we look to so large a constituency to provide the money. The daughters of Presbyterians, Baptists, and Independents are educated at the school, and this appeal is made to members of these various denominations especially. We have been five years getting together enough money to buy the land and build the carcass of the new schoolhouse at Sevenoaks, and the disappointment is very trying to the few who, from year to year, are striving hard to complete the work to which they have put their hands. If a moderate-sized congregation wants to build a new chapel or schools, the money is generally forthcoming; and yet for this work, which is of the utmost importance, and which will not cost more than many of our large chapels, if so much, the Christian public does not respond. I wish they would realise what a comfort it is to the missionary and his wife to know that their children are carefully tended by kind friends while they are at their work abroad. Cannot our ministers help us? I believe ministers can do what they like with their people, if they go the right way to work; and if they would only say to some of them that the object is good and worthy of support, the money would at once come in. To put the matter plainly: the children of missionaries, I am sorry to say, are neglected by the majority of English Christians, and it is time they were reminded of their responsibilities. I have heard missionaries say that, were it not for this school and the school for boys, they would have had to give up their work in order to provide a suitable home in which to train their children.

It would be very easy for the Christians of Great Britain to subscribe an additional £1,000 per annum for the support of the girls' school, and there ought to be no difficulty in raising £20,000 to enable the committee to go on with the building which is so much needed.

I noticed a few days ago that the sum of five million pounds was subscribed in about three days for a well-known commercial investment, when less than one-third of that amount was asked for; and yet for such an object as I plead we have been five years raising about £8,000. If any of your readers mean to leave part of their money to such societies as this, I hope they will not forget this institution when making their wills; but my appeal is to those chiefly who have the means of helping forward this good work in their lifetime.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

THOS. L. DEVITT.

Spring Hill, Upper Clapton, E., March, 1880.

Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received by the collector, Miss Mary Towne, 28, Walford-row, Stoke Newington.

**CURIOUS GOOD FRIDAY OBSERVANCES.**—On Friday morning, at the church of Allhallows, Lombard-street, according to a custom which has been observed for the last 287 years, sixty of the younger boys from Christ's Hospital attended the service, after which, in accordance with the will of Peter Symonds, made in 1593, they each received at the hands of the churchwarden, Mr. Shayer, a new penny and a packet of raisins. The same will also directs that the clerk and sexton shall receive sixpence each, the rector of Chadwell, in Essex, twenty shillings, and the poor of the parish and ward and the Sunday-school children sixpence each. The Rev. C. W. B. Wills, curate, officiated at the service preceding the distribution, and the sermon was preached by the rector, the Rev. Prebendary Mackenzie, M.A. The text was from Matthew xxviii. 36. There was a large attendance at the service. A very ancient custom was again observed at St. Bartholomew-the-Great, Smithfield. Divine service was commenced at eleven, the aged rector, the Rev. John Abbiss, taking his place at the Communion-table. Morning prayer and the Litany were said by the curate, the Rev. J. Morgan, who also read the ante-Communion service. A short sermon was preached by Mr. Morgan from St. John xix. 36, 37. At the conclusion of the service an old tomb in the churchyard was visited, a procession being formed, when the Rev. J. Morgan laid twenty-one sixpences on the tomb, which were picked up by twenty-one elderly females of the parish. It is stated that an old lady left this benefaction, and that she lies buried in the churchyard; but the exact spot cannot be pointed out.—*City Press*.

## Literature.

ROBERT SOUTHEY.\*

LORD MACAULAY, in his review of Southey's "Colloquies on Society," gave it as his opinion that the author's "poems, taken in the mass, stand far higher than his prose works." He added, however, respecting them: "We doubt greatly whether they will be read fifty years hence; but that, if they are read, they will be admired, we have no doubt whatever." The time has more than elapsed since that judgment was delivered, and the doubt which it conveyed has been justified. No one, so far as we are aware, reads Southey's larger poems now. M. Taine pronounces them to be great decorative machines, suited to the fashion of an age that built Roman villas in a northern climate, and feudal towers amidst modern security. Scarcely more can be said for Southey's prose. "The Life of Nelson" is a popular book in school libraries, but the "Peninsular War" and "Wesley" have been superseded by works written by men who knew far more of the respective subjects than Southey. Nevertheless, in reading this sketch by Professor Dowden we have been reminded that the brilliant English essayist and the French critic forgot, in the severity of their literary judgments, that there yet remained the personality of the author, and that Southey was far greater than his works. This fact Professor Dowden has brought out with a power which belongs to fulness of knowledge and depth of sympathy. He regards the total work—the mass of Southey's work—as an extraordinary achievement, and remarks:

Southey himself, however, stands above his works. In subject they are disconnected, and some of them appear like huge fragments. It is the presence of one mind, one character in all, easily recognisable by him who knows Southey, which gives them a vital unity. We could lose the "History of Brazil" or the "Peninsular War," or the "Life of Wesley," and feel that if our possessions were diminished, we ourselves had undergone no loss which might not easily be endured. But he who has once come to know Southey's voice as the voice of a friend, so clear, so brave, so honest, so full of boyish glee, so full of manly tenderness, feels that if he heard that voice no more a portion of his life were gone.

This view is amply sustained by the contents of the volume. Written in a charming style, the volume is one that is distinguished even in the excellent series to which it belongs; but more than its literary excellence is its tenderness of feeling and the interest it imparts to a life singularly free from incidents of a stirring character. Southey's life was divided into two almost equal parts. The first was made up of school and college life, of travel and uncertainties; the second of uninterrupted literary work at Keswick. There does not appear at first sight much to tell a generation that did not know him and has not read his books, but Professor Dowden has produced a biography of intense interest, and set before us his subject as he lived and loved, planned and wrote.

From a boy Southey had a great love for books, for the theatre, and for dramatic writing. But he was nearly thirty before he finally settled down as a really professional literary man. His uncle, who paid his expenses at college, would have had him enter the Church, but Southey, as a youth, was deist in his religious views, and republican in his political. He was too honest to take false vows, though he knew how greatly his refusal to take orders grieved his best friends. He tried to qualify himself as a surgeon, but he did scarcely more than look in at the door of the dissecting room, which disgusted and revolted him. He turned afterwards to law, but he failed to force his mind to attend to his text-books. Literature was his bent. Nature had pre-destined him to it as his vocation, and she kept him poor, and sometimes hungry, till he accepted the calling for which she had fitted him.

Southey's reputation as a politician has been so mercilessly attacked by Byron for its want of consistency, that it is perhaps venturesome to say that there is no evidence that he ever radically changed his views. In early life he was enthusiastic in his desire for the social well-being of the people; in later years this desire was uppermost in his thoughts and speech. But he changed his mind as to the means by which this social elevation was to be gained. He said, in his own defence, "The one object to which I have ever been desirous of contributing according to my power, is the removal of those obstacles by which the improvement of mankind is impeded; and to this the whole tenour of my writings, whether in prose or verse, bears witness." An "apostate Jacobin" he certainly was not, though in early life he would have accepted heartily the principles of the French Revolution. He had boundless confidence, we are told, in his fellow-men; but, strangely enough, he would not entrust them with the suffrage, nor would he have repealed the Test and Corporation Acts, or have admitted

\* Southey. By Edward Dowden. Macmillan and Co.

Catholics to Parliament. He believed in the Church, and would have left to its care the education, the social welfare, and the relief of the poverty of the humbler classes. This was his mistake, and for this faith in institutions rather than in the people he was pilloried by Byron and severely criticised by Macaulay. Nevertheless, Southey's heart was right and true, as the following short passage from Professor Dowden's pen will show:—

Still, at sixty, he believed in a state of society actually to be realised as superior to English society in the nineteenth century, as that itself is superior to the condition of tattooed Britons, or of the Northern pirates from whom we have descended. But the error of supposing such a state of society too near, of fancying that there is a short road to it, seemed to him a pernicious error, seducing the young and generous into an alliance with whatever is flagitious and detestable.

Unfortunately, very much which was regarded by really liberal politicians as the best means of reaching a higher social condition, Southey would have looked upon as "flagitious and detestable." We, at all events, do not share his opinion; but we admire the spirit and enthusiasm of the man who, at sixty, retained the generous hopes of his youth. Shelley, when a boy of nineteen, paid a visit to Keswick, and spent some time with Southey. They differed in opinions upon matters of most serious import. "Here is a man," says Southey, "who acts upon me as my own ghost would do. He is just what I was in 1794." Shelley, on the other hand, while the veritable Southey was before his eyes, "could not discern the dull hireling, the venomous apostate, the cold assassin of freedom conjured up by Byron and others to bear Southey's name."

The full length portrait which Professor Dowden has drawn of Southey is so true, so tender, and so harmonious that it is sure to give pleasure to everyone who peruses it. It does more than that—it shows the possibility of human goodness. Sara Coleridge declared that upon the whole her uncle was the best man she had ever known; and in that verdict most readers of this volume will concur. Southey was a man who knew the limitations of his nature, and was content to do his best within them, narrow as they were. His industry was enormous; his orderly and methodical habits were as unbroken as a law of nature. These were his strength, but they gave a certain mechanical character to his work. In all the requisite qualities of a literary man-of-all-work, he was immeasurably superior to his brother-in-law, Coleridge; but then he lacked what Coleridge had something of—genius. His biographer says:

A strong, deliberate energy, accordingly, is at the back of all Southey's work; but not that blind creative rapture which will have its own way, and leaves its subject weak but appeased. . . . A great Elizabethan poet is described by one of his contemporaries as one standing

"Up to the chin in the Pierian flood."

Southey did not wade so far; he stepped down calmly until the smooth waters touched his waist; dipped seven times, and returned to the bank; it was a beautiful and elevating rite; but the wavering with lyric lips only in the midmost stream, and he who sings with them, and swift as they, need not wonder if he sink after a time faint, breathless, delighted. Authorship, it must be remembered, was Southey's trade—the business of his life; and this, at least, he knew how to conduct well.

It was by this trade that Southey was able to bring up his family—or, rather, such of them as were permitted to live—and to provide for his sisters-in-law, besides nephews and nieces. His life was, on the whole, a happy one. He knew sorrow of the heaviest kind; but he was brave, cheerful, and he hid his grief lest it should pain others. His love for his wife and children was deep and overflowing, and his delight in the mountains and lakes where he lived was the radiant expression of that "sense sublime" of which his friend Wordsworth sang. He was a man of fine nervous sensibility, but of cultured control. He played no tricks, as he said, with body or mind. We cannot refrain from making one other extract, in which Professor Dowden describes, in felicitous language, the aims of Southey's life, and sums up his actual achievements:—

It would not have been difficult for Southey, with such a temperament as his, to have wrecked himself at the outset of his career. With beautiful foiled lives of young men Southey had a peculiar sympathy. But the gods sometimes give white hairs as an aureole to their favoured ones. Perhaps, on the whole, for him it was not only more prudent, but also more chivalrous to study to be quiet; to create a home for those who looked to him for security; to guard the happiness of tender women; to make smooth ways for the feet of little children; to hold hands in old age with the friends of his youth; to store his mind with treasures of knowledge; to strengthen and chasten his own heart; to grow yearly in love for his country and her veritable heritage of manners, virtues, laws; to add to her literature the outcome of an adult intellect and character; and having fought a strenuous and skilful fight, to fall as one whose sword an untimely stroke has shattered in his hand.

The editor of this series of works on "English Men of Letters" is to be congratulated on the success of his enterprise. It is one of the most valuable aids to the general knowledge of English literature. Amongst those already issued, this life of Southey occupies a high place. Why is not Coleridge to fill a niche amongst these biographical monuments?



## OUR AUSTRALIAN COUSINS.\*

ANY book from the author of "Sport and Work on the Nepal Frontier" should command attention. Mr. Inglis is a man of large observation, of exceedingly just habit of thought, and possesses a forcible, if occasionally rough, style. But some persons will be disappointed in finding that, by "Our Australian Cousins" are meant only the inhabitants of New South Wales, where Mr. Inglis himself resides. And, as the most elaborate piece of writing in this work is devoted to kangaroos and other marsupials, it is scarcely beside the mark to ask whether Mr. Inglis includes these amongst "Our Australian Cousins?" But, passing by these points, it may be said that there is little in this work to provoke criticism. The style, it is true, is somewhat unequal. There is careful thought and careful writing; but, on the other hand, there is some slipshod thought as well as slipshod writing. The book, in fact, is a mixture of really superior book-work and of special correspondents' letters—which are not superior. But, whether the writing be of the one or the other class, it contains an amount of information of remarkable value, and of very high interest.

Mr. Inglis takes us with him, first, on his voyage from India to Australia, giving, on the way, some very delicate little sketches of scenery and society. Next we are taken to Queensland, of which a promising account is given, with some graphic illustrations of its growth and of its manufactures. Queensland, it seems, is not all a Paradise, unless it may be a Paradise for servants. Thus:—

The servants here, although remarkably well paid, are a great source of anguish to the ladies. As at home, they are the principal domestic grievance. Girls get from ten to twelve shillings a week, men, such as grooms and gardeners, from £2 upwards; but if you say a word of censure or exhortation to them they consign you to *Jehannam*, and tell you to suit yourself elsewhere. Of course, all are not alike, but the majority are dreadfully independent, and too often very insolent.

Queensland is a fine poor man's country. A labourer on the wharves earns his shilling an hour; working men on the roads from six shillings a day; and a tradesman nine to ten shillings, and even more at times. Besides, they all want their Saturday and Sunday as holidays, when the consumption of drink is calculated to increase the revenues of the country to an extent that may certainly gladden the heart of the treasurer who contemplates a probable deficit, but which saddens the true patriot or earnest statesman. Luxuries are dear—eggs two shillings a dozen, butter half-a-crown a pound; groceries and clothes are also expensive; but, as some atonement, the best butcher's meat can be bought for 3d. to 4d. per lb., and vegetables and fruits are cheap and plentiful. A bachelor, boarding out, could live very cheaply here, but a family man, to live in any degree of comfort, needs £500 a year at least.

The aboriginal natives of Queensland appear to be treated as the lower-class Englishmen, and, sometimes, the upper-class Englishmen, of our colonies are in the habit of treating such people. They are hunted down and shot on the smallest pretext. A Scotch resident, quoted by Mr. Inglis, gives some painful facts relating to this subject, which had come under his own observation. They are horrible and disgraceful to the last degree. But it is added: "And this is the way that our standard religion of the nineteenth century deals with the facts of life and humanity." We reply that this is not the way, but it is the way that irreligion deals with them, if you like. On the whole, and notwithstanding a good deal of public corruption and commercial dishonesty, it is clear that Queensland, with her plains and her mines, has a magnificent future before it, and Mr. Inglis shows how much greater that future might be. His practical suggestions as to the cultivation of the indigo and other plants are of great value, and cannot too soon be tested.

We pass by the chapter on the Marsupials, not because it is not interesting—for it is extremely interesting—but because, with other matter, we can afford to do so. Then we come to New South Wales. Perhaps no country has ever been more exhaustively described than this is by the author of the present work. The chapter with which this portion opens, with its description of Sydney and its "unrivalled beauties," is a good specimen of Mr. Inglis's descriptive powers. It will make many readers want to go there, but it is quite possible that it will not make so many desire to stay. For, even wonderful, and magnificent, and charming Sydney has its drawbacks. These, however, have been created by man. It seems so strange to read that a city so new as this should be foully drained; but let us quote Mr. Inglis, who is characteristically honest with regard to this and other matters, social and political, as well as architectural:—

Of the city itself I am afraid that strict truthfulness compels one to give a less flattering estimate. A closer acquaintance does not disclose many fresh beauties. Sydney, even by its most pronounced admirers, is generally admitted to be a dirty town. The inhabitants have been so long in the habit of hearing this proverbial reproach of filthiness levelled against their queen city of the south, as they delight to call it, that they have come to acquiesce in it, and in a half apologetic, half indignant way they reluctantly allow the truth of the general dictum. And yet, comparatively speaking, perhaps Sydney is not, after all, such a filthy town as is generally imagined. Certainly to see it during a continued spell of wet weather, when the mud is churned up on the macadamised roads by the throng of vehicles, quadrupeds, and pedestrians, till the streets are covered foot deep in places with the sloppy deposit, would not favourably impress a stranger. Or again, let the observant foreigner encounter the full force of a "southerly bluster" in one of the principal streets of the New South Wales metropolis; his remarks, if heard at all amid the dust-laden whirlwinds, will hardly be pleasant to hear, yet, under ordinary circumstances, the streets of Sydney are not half so bad as the tongue of detraction would make them. Granted that in wet weather they are miry to a more than ordinary degree. Granted that in

dry windy weather the dust whirls in eddying volumes through every thoroughfare, blinding the traveller, destroying clothes and any exposed merchandise, and exacerbating the temper, still, under similar circumstances, Sydney is not a whit inferior to other towns of equal pretensions, but might, perhaps, issue favourably from a comparison.

As for the slums of Sydney, described farther on, they seem to be quite equal to any slums in London, Liverpool, or Glasgow; so that, after reading our author, we quite come to his conclusion that "never was a glorious site for a city more unhappily spoilt." If it be asked who have spoilt it, we find that it has been a greedy and corrupt class, whose reign is by no means over, at which we do not wonder when we are again told that "mammon worship" is the fashionable religion. The following is strong language, and will, it is to be hoped, "do good" to the people; but the picture, with some others of a similar kind, is not a pleasant one:—

As a community, I accuse the Sydney richer classes of callous, cynical disregard of duty, in this and in other respects. They will encourage sport, spend money on ostentatious display, eat well, drink freely, live merrily, pursue wealth and pleasure with desperate keenness, but philanthropy is not their strong point. Religion is counted well enough for the women and the parsons, and a cold, selfish indifference spreads among men, until the moral tone of the nation is in danger of being seriously depreciated. A spirit of unworthy dependence on government to do everything, while the individual shall do nothing, is on the increase, and bodes ill indeed for the growth of vigorous, manly self-reliance, sound national life, and a pure political atmosphere.

All honour to the brave ministers of religion, who struggle on, often almost single-handed, in the midst of indifference and cynical contempt. Myself a son of the manse, I can well appreciate the self-denying lives that they mostly have to lead. The money-grubbing parvenus, of whom there are hundreds in and around Sydney, treat them with offensive patronage or covert ridicule; church-going and parochia work are not fashionable with many of these plutocrats; and spiritists, free-thinkers, religious sensation-mongers, and irresponsible hobbyists, are often fetted and caressed in very high circles indeed, when the patient, upright Christian gentleman and minister is misrepresented and maligned. My remarks are only applicable to a section of the community, but it is a section that is powerful, wealthy, numerically strong.

Commercially, Sydney is prosperous, and people who work are well paid. But here, as elsewhere, the people who will not work are not so well paid. It appears that, notwithstanding the high rate of wages, there are "workmen's combinations," and that such bodies are "all powerful." And so well paid are many that they run on the road to ruin as fast as they can. They are independent even when they are not well off, and a great many will sooner loaf and beg than work, just like their English brothers, although not with such excuse. We turn from these to a more interesting class. This is what Mr. Inglis has to say of the young ladies of Australia, before whom, it appears, their English sisters must altogether give way:—

The traveller cannot fail to be struck with the general appearance of the Australian women. I think they possess greater charms of face and figure, and a more delicate, refined style of beauty, as a rule, than their northern sisters. The Australian-born woman is generally tall, well-proportioned, agile, lithe of limb, and has all her features cut in a classic mould of rather a Grecian or aristocratic type. In words plain, I think Australian women are more generally pleasing, more lovely in feature, and more graceful in figure, than English women. The climate has doubtless much to do with this, but beauty is not by any means confined to the wealthier classes. The free out-of-door life, the abundant fare, the freedom from many foolish kinds of conventionality which handicap the English girl, all go in favour of the Australian. One is surprised to find so many really beautiful faces and faultless figures, in all ranks; and the observant student of "the human form divine" must come to the conclusion, that so far as outward beauty is concerned, the race has not deteriorated by its transplantation to the antipodes. The Australian, however, must strike her flag to the fresh rosy cheeks and ruddy warm complexions of the village beauties of the old country. Clear complexions are not the strong point of the Australian belles.

The author deals with political matters with great freedom. His remarks on the land question are characterised by knowledge, experience, shrewdness, and patriotism. His drastic exposure and his lively descriptions of the New South Wales Legislature show an exceedingly remarkable courage. We should like to see his reception by some of the members when this volume reaches Sydney. In one respect it is likely to be a most honourable one, but there are States in the so-called civilised world where, while it might be honourable, it might also be dangerous. And dangerous solely because what the author says is altogether true. Nor can any one be surprised that political society should be such as it is here said to be. The vulgar rich man and the unscrupulous adventurer pretty equally thrive in a new community that is getting very rapidly rich. It was the salvation of the Puritans that they had to remain poor. It is the danger of our colonists that, through wealth, they may degrade their name—as they are partially doing—and in doing so ultimately bring destruction upon themselves. The rocks upon which they are likely to split are plainly marked, but they are men who, having eyes to see, will not see, even though so capable a pilot as Mr. Inglis may point out to them dangers that should be plain to every man.

## MR. WILKIE COLLINS'S NEW NOVEL.\*

MR. WILKIE COLLINS, in a dedication to Signor Alberto Caccia, the translator of his novels into Italian, takes care to signify that this novel is not the continuation of "The Fallen Leaves" which was promised us. That enterprise he has left over till the public is more prepared for the treatment of such topics, which he recog-

nises is at present a bold one. But he cannot abstain from pointing a moral or throwing out a sarcasm.

You know (he says), having done me the honour to read my books, that I respect my art far too sincerely to permit limits to be wantonly assigned to it which are imposed in no civilised country on the face of the earth. When my work is undertaken with a pure purpose, I claim the same liberty which is accorded to a writer in a newspaper or a clergyman in a pulpit; knowing, by previous experience, that the increase of readers and the lapse of time will assuredly do me justice, if I have only written well enough to deserve it. In the prejudiced quarters to which I have alluded, one of the characters in the "Fallen Leaves" offended susceptibilities of the sort felt by Tartuffe, when he took out his handkerchief and requested Dorine to cover her bosom. I not only decline to defend myself under such circumstances as these. I say plainly, that I have never asserted a truer claim to the best and noblest sympathies of Christian readers than in presenting to them in my last novel the character of the innocent victim of infamy, rescued and purified from the contamination of the streets. I remember what the nasty posterity of Tartuffe in this country said of "Basil," of "Armada," of "The New Magdalen," and I know that the wholesome audience of the nation at large has done liberal justice to those books. For this reason I wait to write the second part of "The Fallen Leaves" until the first part of the story has found its way to the people.

The present story is more a study in the line of "Armada" and "The Haunted Hotel" than of anything else. We all know Mr. Wilkie Collins's versatility, his power of invention, the resolute fashion in which he lays down his detached threads, and, as it were, dextrously gathers them all together into his hand again; and also the subtle way in which he mixes up knowledge of human nature, gathered from a large and careful observation, with the most *outré* and improbable conceptions. All this is admirably illustrated in the present story. The appointment of Mrs. Wagner as managing head of a great business by the will of her husband; her due assumption of the same charge; her energy, resolution, and general capableness; her determination also to carry out the intentions of her husband in certain plans of benevolence—these are really the foundation lines on which the author may be said to have raised the structure of this most interesting work. For, in spite of perhaps a too large infusion of certain elements, which no doubt contribute to aid the popularity of Mr. Wilkie Collins's novels, but which sometimes do not improve them as art, there is generally present—and certainly is present here—a tender, humanising element which runs like a soft streak of light through dim and gloomy avenues. The central interest of the story lies in the character and career of Madame Fontaine, a French woman by birth, and—perhaps, there is some significance in that also—the widow of a Professor of Chemistry in the university of Würzburg, where she has left behind her a reputation by no means of the most honourable kind. She has come to live in Frankfurt; and has not been long there when David Glenny, a journeyman of good heart and good parts, a nephew of Mrs. Wagner's late husband, also arrives on some business connected with relations between the head house in London and the branch at Frankfurt, and through an act of kindness done to a young lady, he is made acquainted with Madame Fontaine and her daughter, and is indirectly the cause of introducing them to Mr. Engelman, an elderly man, one of the partners in the Frankfurt house. This is all in the way of Madame Fontaine's designs, for she wishes to gain influence with Mr. Keller, the other partner, whose son has fallen in love with her daughter, and who has put an embargo on the marriage of the young people on the ground of the mother's doubtful reputation in several ways. Madame Fontaine, under the wing of Mr. Engelman, introduces herself to Mr. Keller, and is repelled; she writes to him only to have her letters returned unread; she is found, through connivance of the servant, in Mr. Keller's bedroom (sketching the carved mantelpiece). Mr. Keller is suddenly taken ill of a disease which the doctors cannot understand, and he is cured through the nursing of Madame Fontaine and her prescription from the famous "Blue Bottle," and is reconciled to Madame Fontaine, and consents to the marriage. Mr. Keller, whose son has been sent to England, and is in Mrs. Wagner's house, has been recalled home while his father is considered to be dangerously ill, and soon after his return, Mrs. Wagner, to settle an outstanding difference about the employment of female clerks, appears in Frankfurt, accompanied by Jack Straw, a man whom she has rescued—after the system of Samuel Tuke, the Quaker—from the clutches of the keeper of Bethlehem Hospital, or Bedlam. Jack Straw, who had met with Madame Fontaine before, and had had peculiar experiences of her powers, forms a very important person in the story, and affords a very fine relief from other elements, as the author claims.

In the character of "Jack Straw" (he says), you have the exhibition of an enfeebled intellect, tenderly shown under its lightest and happiest aspect, and used as a means of relief in some of the darkest scenes of terror and suspense occurring in this story. Again, in "Madame Fontaine," I have endeavoured to work out the interesting moral problem which takes for its groundwork the strongest of all instincts in a woman, the instinct of maternal love, and traces to its solution the restraining and purifying influence of this one virtue over an otherwise cruel, false, degraded nature.

If Mr. Wilkie Collins has here commanded all the sources of interest which have rendered some of his former stories so potent to attract, he has shown, as we think, more subtlety than in any former case in producing effect by an appeal to the common and kindly instincts of human nature. Those who are curious about incidents and details of plot, we must recommend to read the novel for themselves, because no summary, however skilful, could do justice to Mr. Wilkie Collins in these respects. More especially should

\* Our Australian Cousins. By James Inglis ("Maori"). Macmillan and Co.

\* Joseph's Daughter. By Wilkie Collins. In Three Vols. Chatto and Windus.



they read with close attention the closing chapters, which are full of the most realistic touches in combination with remarkable imaginative force. Mr. Wilkie Collins is wise in his careful studies of actual places, so that by separate touches he gains verisimilitude, and compels the assent of the reader. As a specimen of Mr. Wilkie Collins's style, we give the following, exhibiting the effect produced on old Mr. Engelman by the beauty of Madame Fontaine:—

There was something so absurd in the association of Madame Fontaine's charms with the extinction of Mr. Engelman's pipe, that I burst out laughing. My good old friend looked at me in grave surprise.

"What is there to laugh at in my forgetting to keep my pipe alight?" he asked. "My whole mind, David, was absorbed in that magnificent woman the instant I set eyes on her. The image of her is before me at this moment—an image of an angel in moonlight. Am I speaking poetically for the first time in my life? I shouldn't wonder. I really don't know what is the matter with me. You are a young man, and perhaps you can tell. Have I fallen in love, as the saying is?" He took me confidentially by the arm, before I could answer this formidable question. "Don't tell friend Keller!" he said, with a sudden outburst of alarm. "Keller is an excellent man, but he has no mercy on sinners. I say, David! couldn't you introduce me to her?"

Still haunted by the fear that I had spoken too unreservedly during my interview with the widow, I was in the right humour to exhibit extraordinary prudence in my intercourse with Mr. Engelman.

"I couldn't venture to introduce you," I said. "The lady is living in here in the strictest retirement."

"At any rate, you can tell me her name," pleaded Mr. Engelman. "I dare say you have mentioned it to Keller."

"I have done nothing of the sort. I have reasons for saying nothing about the lady to Mr. Keller."

"Well, you can trust me to keep the secret, David. Come! I only want to send her some flowers from my garden. She can't object to that. Tell me where I am to send my nosegay, there's a dear fellow."

I dare say I did wrong—indeed, judging by later events, I know I did wrong. But I could not view the affair seriously enough to hold out against Mr. Engelman in the matter of the nosegay. He started when I mentioned the widow's name.

"Not the mother of the girl whom Fritz wants to marry?" he exclaimed.

"Yes, the same. Don't you admire Fritz's tastes? Isn't Miss Minna a charming girl?"

"I can't say, David. I was bewitched—I had no eyes for anybody but her mother. Do you think Madame Fontaine noticed me?"

"Oh, yes. I saw her look at you."

"Turn this way, David. The effect of the moonlight on you seems to make you look younger. Has it the same effect on me? How old should you guess me to be to-night? Fifty or sixty?"

"Somewhere between the two, sir."

(He was close on seventy. But who could have been cruel enough to say so, at that moment?)

#### BRIEF NOTICES.

**Homiletical and Pastoral Lectures.** Delivered in St. Paul's Cathedral before the Church Homiletical Society. With a Preface by the Right Rev. C. J. Elliott, D.D., Lord Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol. (Hodder and Stoughton.) Among the authors of these twenty lectures are six Bishops, with Deans, Canons, and Prebendaries, most of them men of considerable mark and fame. The society before which they were delivered was established in 1874, and owed its origin to a small gathering of London clergymen, who met together in the autumn of the preceding year to consider the best means of raising the standard of preaching, especially among younger men. It was felt that the need for such a movement was real, and even urgent, but it appeared to be very doubtful how that need could best be supplied. It was ultimately agreed that a short and tentative course of lectures on preaching should be delivered. Invitations were sent out to all the clergy of London and its suburbs, and to others interested in the subject; the invitations were so largely accepted, and the opening lectures so distinctly successful, that a permanent society was formed in 1875, and, shortly afterwards, a periodical, called the *Clergyman's Magazine*, published as the organ of the society. All this we are told by Bishop Elliott in his preface to the volume before us. We have read not a few of the lectures which the volume contains with the highest satisfaction. They contain the best and maturest thoughts of some of the ablest men in the Church of England. "The golden thread which runs through them all is elevated instruction, combined with the clear common sense and knowledge of the human heart, which are both so vitally necessary in any true and effective teaching of Homiletics." There is no small advantage in unity of authorship; but there is likewise an advantage in diversity; for this reason—"that hardly any single mind is sufficiently many-sided to set forth the various aspects of the answers to the great questions, How most effectually to influence the souls of others by the spoken Word? and How most permanently to modify life and practice?" Churchmen are ready to confess the inferiority of the ordinary preaching of their clergy. But Nonconformists have much to learn as well, and they will find in this volume much means of "instruction and correction." Where there are so many good lectures, it is almost invidious to single out a few. But we would specially commend to our own brethren the first, by Bishop Thorold, on "The Preparation of a Sermon;" the third, by Dean Howson, entitled, "Homely Hints on Preaching;" and the fifth, on "What Constitutes a Plain Sermon," by Bishop Goodwin. We could fill many columns with telling extracts from these and other lectures.

**Gleanings from the Natural History of the Ancients.** By the Rev. W. HOUGHTON, M.A., F.L.S. (Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.) Mr. Houghton has in this little volume exhibited great research without specially pre-

tending it, and he has made a real contribution to our aids to Bible study. Science is generally regarded as inimical to revelation; but, in the aspect in which Mr. Houghton has viewed it, he has certainly thrown no little light on many texts or passages which were obscure, or about which there might be some doubt. His remarks about our domestic animals, especially the cat and dog, are exceedingly interesting, and some of the drawings from Assyrian sculptures are very striking. The greater half of the book, indeed, is devoted to domesticated animals, which in view of the popular purpose of the book was wise, though the section on "Wild Animals" is also very full and interesting. We have read with special pleasure the sections on the coney, the seal, and the ostrich, with their very full, classical, and curious references to such writers as quaint Sir Thomas Browne. As a specimen we shall present our readers with this passage on the camel which bears on a disputed text:—"The camel is, and has long been the subject among Eastern nations of several proverbial expressions, but I only stop to notice the one mentioned in the New Testament as having been spoken by Christ, 'It is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.' It is perfectly certain that the Greek *καμήλος* means 'a camel,' and nothing but a camel. It has been said that we ought to read *καμήλος*, 'a cable,' instead of *καμήλος* 'a camel,' and that in that case the metaphor of rope and needle's eye is exact, whereas the idea of a camel passing through the eye of a needle is a false metaphor. Unfortunately for objectors to the ordinary reading, there is no such word as *καμήλος*, 'a cable.' The scholiasts on the 'Waifs' of Aristophanes (1,035) and Suidas are the only authorities for the existence of such a word, which must be rejected. Another suggested explanation is that a small gate at Hebron still exists, through which a loaded camel can with difficulty pass, and that this gate or small arch is called a needle's eye. There is no doubt, however, that the literal meaning is the true one. Such proverbial expressions were common among the Jews when they were referring to anything unusual or impossible. Thus to a person who had told some marvellous or incredible story it was said, 'Perhaps thou art one of the Pumbeditha (a Jewish school at Babylon), who can make an elephant go through the eye of a needle.' Again, in the Koran 'Until the camel shall enter the needle's eye' is an expression that occurs, and will serve to illustrate the foregoing remarks.

**Studies in the Church.** By the Right Rev. HENRY C. LAY, D.D., Bishop of Easton, United States of America. (W. Wells Gardner.) Bishop Lay has written in these familiar letters what will, no doubt, be an extremely serviceable book to some members not only of his own Church in America, but to members of the Established Church in this country. His expositions of doctrine are clear, but it is hardly necessary for us to say that not being High Churchmen, we do not accept them.—*Christianity and Reason: Their Necessary Connection.* By R. S. WYLD, LL.D., F.R.S.E. (Edinburgh: D. Douglas.) A book of really superior value, and that is saying a great deal, when we look at the subject with which it deals. It has breadth; it has charity; it is reflective, and it is suggestive.—*The Difficulties of the Soul* (by W. H. M. AITKEN) (Hodder and Stoughton) treats of spiritual trouble and difficulty in the manner which Mr. Aitken has made familiar to many readers. We are glad to find here what we scarcely expected—a recognition of the existence of "honest, earnest, gentle-hearted, and sorrowful doubters—only too many—who seem to need our help so sorely."—In the *Sinner and the Saviour*, by THOS. S. SHENSTON, of Canada (Elliot Stock), the author has written in familiar manner, interspersed with hymns and anecdotes, some impressive meditations upon spiritual relationship. Some of them are rather sensational, but it is, perhaps, better to write in that style than to write what nobody will read.—*Youth: its Care and Culture*, by J. MORTIMER GRANVILLE (David Bogue), adds one more to the many exceedingly valuable small books of Dr. Granville. Wise suggestions and advice, based upon large knowledge, will be found on every page. When will women, for instance, recognise the fact that their garments should be as few as possible, and that they should all hang from the shoulders? When will they find out how best to cultivate form and strength? And so on. The hints as to these as well as higher matters, may be obtained from Dr. Granville.—Under the title of the *Sure Foundation*, the Rev. ERNEST BOYS has produced a small book for clearing up doubts as to personal salvation. It may be of help.—In *Gleanings from the Life and Teaching of Christ*, by HENRY H. BOURN (Elliot Stock), there is to be found devout but not uncommon thought, clear, however, and well purposed.

**Episodes of Anglo-Indian History.** By W. H. DAVENPORT ADAMS. (E. Marlborough and Co.) In this handsome volume Mr. Davenport Adams has undoubtedly met, if not an existing want, a want which ought to be existing. He has told, in comparatively small compass, the whole story of our acquisition and government of India. And he has told it well. Of course there will be differences of opinion amongst readers, and especially Anglo-Indian readers, concerning details that have been omitted. Anglo-Indians are the most provincial of all politicians, and it is extremely difficult to give them enough concerning that part of our possessions with which they have been most concerned. Mr. Adams shows an admirable impartiality in this respect. His narrative is sufficiently full, not to be bald; it is clear throughout, and is enlivened with some anecdotes.

**Esther: a Tale of Modern Jewish Burgher Life.** By the Author of "Eliezer." (S. W. Partridge and Co.) This is a tale of unusual interest, and although it is, in some degree, "written with a purpose" (and why should it not be?) the interest is not, as so often happens, over-

borne by the purpose. We are introduced by it to the family of a Jewish Rabbi in Germany, the domestic and religious life of which is described in exceedingly happy illustrations, so that one can well realise the manner of thought, as well as many social and religious customs. One of the daughters of this house by-and-by becomes a Christian, and is cursed with a heavy curse. Her trials are described with great vividness, and altogether the book is characterised by a fine realism.

**Gathered Clusters from Scripture Pages.** By Lady HOPE, of Carriden. (Edinburgh: Macniven and Wallace.) We could welcome any work from the pen of so earnest a Christian worker as Lady Hope, and we welcome this one. Here she has endeavoured to show, by example, how teaching may be made interesting; and very interesting are the specimens before us. But the author knows as well as we do that the first and the last requisite is neither matter, nor manner, nor good arrangement, nor good illustrations, but living power. Give that, and, for the most part, all else will come. There is, however, a singular want of adaptability in some persons. To these, as well as to others, Lady Hope's well-chosen "Clusters" should be eminently grateful.

Two further volumes of the *Chandos Classics* (F. Warne and Co.), in their very cheap and neat form, will be welcomed. They are "Lamb's Poems and Essays" and the "Fairy Queen" of Spenser. Both are very carefully and well printed, though in type somewhat small, but still clear—no little skill having been shown in managing the arrangement of the double-column verse in the pages of the Spenser volume. For persons who cannot afford to purchase the larger and more laboured editions these volumes, so compact and yet clear in type, are really a boon. They are so small that they might be carried in the pocket—a fact which brings out most clearly the efforts which are now made to compress large works like the "Fairy Queen" into moderate compass.

We have before us Nos. 20, 21, 22 of Messrs. William Blackwood and Sons' new series of *Tales from Blackwood*. Though hardly so bright and racy as some of the earlier ones, such as that which contained the "Glenmutchkin Railway," &c., there is sufficient of the peculiar Blackwood dash and *verve* to make them acceptable; a dry humour, which saves itself from pure extravagance by a peculiar return on some fact of human nature or pathos or fancy. By far the best in these volumes, we think, are "A Ride for Life," "A Sketch from Babylon," "Mrs. Beauchamp's Vengeance," "Lady Adelaide," and "How Frank Thornton was Cured." They are just the kind of tales to read on a railway journey, or while waiting to pass a half-hour between two engagements. The growing demand for this kind of literature indicates one of the great changes that has come over us. In old times, if reading were wanted at all, a little essay or sketch of manners would have sufficed. Now we must have fiction.

**The Life of Jesus Christ.** By Rev. JAMES STALKER, M.A. (Edinburgh, I. and J. Clark.) This is one of a series of handbooks for Bible classes—the only one we have seen—in course of publication, under the editorship of the Rev. Marcus Dods and Rev. Alexander Whyte. Its chief feature is carefulness, and it is well adapted to Bible classes generally.

**The Three-fold Basis of Universal Restitution.** (Williams and Norgate.) The contention of the author is that by the constitution of man, the nature of God, and the purpose of Redemption, restitution is proved. He will, we trust, forgive us for not expounding his argument, but we are bound to say it deserves attention.

## THE GENERAL ELECTION.

### ELECTION ADDRESSES.

MR. GLADSTONE.

Mr. Gladstone, on his way to Stow on Tuesday, addressed a large meeting at Peebles. He said: Accounts reach us from all quarters of the country that the people of England, Scotland, and Ireland are determined to change the mischievous system of government under which we have laboured for some years. We have got a Government that increases our taxes, and yet does not pay our debts. (Cheers.) We have got a Government that promises a great deal about legislation and neglects it and throws it overboard in order to pursue mischievous, exciting, disturbing schemes. Our interests are neglected and left in abeyance, and the effect of these schemes when we look at the state of things abroad is to increase our territory, without increasing our strength. If recent acquisitions were as valuable as they are valueless, I would repudiate them, because they were attained by means which are dishonourable to the character of our country. Let us have none of these clandestine treaties, none of these secret engagements. Let our policy live or die in the light of day, for that is a policy that approves itself to the heart and conscience of the country, and will alone enable you to hand down to generations after you the great double inheritance of the British Empire, which you have received from generations before you. (Cheers.)—The proceedings closed with three cheers for Mr. Tennant, led off by Mr. Gladstone. The train then travelled to Innerleithen, Mr. Tennant being among the party. Here there was a large concourse of persons, who were addressed from a temporary platform. At Innerleithen Mr. Gladstone spoke to a large crowd from a temporary platform. He said he believed some of those he saw before him were real electors of Innerleithen. In Scotland there was a different state of things from what prevailed in England. In England there was but one set of electors; in Scotland there were two sets, and both had got votes. One was the real set, and the other was the sham set. They had set their shoulders to the wheel to have done with this sham set of electors. If the suffrage in counties were put upon as liberal a footing as it was in boroughs, they would hear no more of these sham voters. (Cheers.) Those that existed would quietly die out.

At Stow, addressing a meeting of 4,000 persons, Mr. Gladstone dealt with the subject of finance, and, in doing so, recapitulated the three distinct points which he had urged at the meeting at Dalkeith with respect to the new Probate Duty Bill of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. Glad-



stone referred to the opinions of certain foreign newspapers with regard to the policy pursued by Her Majesty's Ministers. Without undervaluing foreign opinion, it, in his view, ought never to direct the opinion of the people of this country. (Cheers.) Wherever a foreign opinion was an impartial opinion it ought to have some weight in the formation of their judgment in reference to acts done or omissions made. Quotations had been made from various papers from France, Germany, and Austria. He did not admit that the people of those countries disapproved of the conduct of the Liberal party. He believed that in Austria there were influential portions of the Empire, particularly the Hungarian Magyars, who violently disapproved of the Liberal party; but nearly the whole of the Slavonic population of Austria—two or three times the number of the Magyar population—sympathised with, and approved of, the conduct of the Liberal party. (Cheers.) But even if these allegations were true—that the people of France, Germany, and Austria disapproved of the course of the Liberals—he had to observe that there were some other countries in the world besides these. (Hear, hear.) He, for one, could not think it a fact wholly unimportant, and he was afraid it was indisputable, that the Government had thoroughly alienated from the people of this country the feelings of the Russian Government and of the eighteen millions of people who formed the Russian nation, and had certainly estranged the twenty millions of Christians belonging to the Turkish Empire, in whose ears the name of England, which would once have been embraced, almost worshipped, as that of a sort of fairplay, had now become little less than odious as associated with the maintenance of a cruel, wanton, and debasing tyranny over them. (Cheers.) He, however, had heard it said that the thirty millions of Italians disapproved of the Liberal party. The Italians, who had long been engaged in a struggle for freedom, at length satisfactorily attained, remembered that they received important aid from the Liberal party, with Lord Palmerston at its head, in the achievement of that great consummation; and that the Tory party, with Lord Beaconsfield at its head, and in his own person in Parliament, was always adverse to the freedom of Italy. There were also the States in Europe to whose opinions he for one attached considerable importance. They were the smaller free States of Europe—Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Denmark, Portugal. He had never seen one single intimation, one single reference, to the opinion of the twenty millions of Europeans inhabiting these smaller States as having been favourable to the policy of the present Administration. (Hear, hear.) Then let them take one other step across the Atlantic; let them go to that great country America, with her 84,000,000 of population, their own kith and kin, who had a predisposition to view the course taken by the English Government with favour on account of the blood relationship between them. The opinion of America, according to those who had some means of estimating it, had been distinctly favourable during these years to the action of the Liberal party. (Cheers.) It was important, however, in estimating the value of foreign opinion, to inquire into the motives of those who held these opinions, and if they were interested in taking part in schemes of aggression and aggrandisement, then their friendly opinion, instead of being welcomed, would be viewed with alarm. (Hear, hear.) The right hon. gentleman referred to the foreign policy of Lord Clarendon in support of this view, and to a memorable statement by Lord Russell, who, when Lord Palmerston's action was questioned on the ground that it was unpopular abroad, said, "All these references to your foreign newspapers and opinions, what do they show? They show that my noble friend has not been the Foreign Minister of Austria, has not been the Foreign Minister of Russia, has not been the Foreign Minister of Prussia, but has been the Foreign Minister of England." (Loud applause.)

## THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON.

Lord Hartington, addressing the electors of North-East Lancashire at Padiham, on Thursday, replied to the question frequently asked, In what respects the foreign policy of the Opposition, if returned to power, would differ from that of Her Majesty's present advisers? His lordship said:—Those who put this question know as well as we do that it is impossible to lay down any plan or course of action which is to be followed in circumstances which no man at this moment can foresee. But it has often been observed that history shows a great tendency to repeat itself. There is much in the history of the Eastern Question which has been a repetition of the history of more than twenty years ago; there is much which has taken place in Asia—in Afghanistan—which has been almost a literal repetition of our own history of many years ago. We have had within the recollection of many of us two chapters of the Eastern Question, and I do not think it is by any means improbable that within the lifetime of many of us—probably within the very near future—we shall have to read another chapter of the same story. Do not let any suppose that this Eastern question is settled by the Treaty of Berlin. What is there to induce any of us to suppose any such thing? Are not all the same causes of disturbance still in existence? Have you not still, no doubt within more limited boundaries, the same weak and corrupt Government, the same aspiration towards independence by great peoples, and, if you like to put it so, have you not still got the same ambition and the same schemes at work which you had before? Then, looking at the immediate circumstances and time, can any one say that there is not a strong probability that this question will before long be reopened? At this moment the frontier question between Greece and Turkey is unsettled, and not the slightest progress has been made towards giving Constitutions to those parts of the Turkish dominions which were provided for under the Treaty of Berlin. And, as far as any one of us can see, the Turkish system of government is throughout the whole country going from bad to worse. In these circumstances no one can tell how soon this question may be reopened. Now, if a Liberal Government comes into power we may, at least, say this of it, that our policy would not be a repetition of that course of action which, under the present Government, so disastrously failed, but which they seem to think has so triumphantly succeeded, and that we shall not stake the interests or the honour of England upon the maintenance of the independence and integrity of an unreformed Turkish Government. We will not treat the condition of its people and the conduct of the Turkish Government to its Christian subjects as a matter which is only of interest to Russia and to Turkey, and in which we have no call to interfere, except so far as certain definite interests of our own are concerned. We will not try to thwart and destroy the concert of Europe, if, by some

happy providence, Europe is united as to what should be done there. On the contrary, we shall strive and do our utmost to promote that concert, and if that concert should again be happily established, we shall do the utmost that lies in our power to carry its decisions into execution.

On Tuesday Lord Hartington, speaking at Haslingden, explained away several misapprehensions which had arisen as to the meaning of certain passages in his recent speeches dealing with the question of colonial policy. His lordship said he had asked in his address to the electors whether it was not a fact that the Liberals left the colonies never more attached and loyal to the mother country than they were then. He believed the principle they adopted was the true one—one which was not likely to disintegrate the colonies, but rather to consolidate them. They said when a colony had arrived at that stage of development when it was entitled to the boon of self-government, it must not depend for everything upon the mother country. It especially became its duty to provide for its own defence against its immediate neighbours, be they savage tribes or be they others. They held that it was not for the benefit of the Empire that Imperial troops should be scattered in small detachments all over the world. They did not lay down the principle that the colonies had nothing to look for from the mother country. On the contrary, they had recognised the obligation to defend them with the whole strength of the British Empire if they were attacked by any foreign Power. (Cheers.) The Liberal policy with regard to the colonies was to be judged not by what somebody might say, but by what they did, and he called upon Mr. Ercroyd, or any of those timid men who had abandoned the ranks of the Liberal party, to show what steps had been taken by the Liberal party, or what plan had been advocated by the Liberal party, which would in the slightest degree weaken our connection with the colonies. With regard to Home Rule, he declared that the policy of the Opposition had been consistent in the matter throughout, and that they had not tampered with it, as the Government had done.

## MR. BRIGHT.

Mr. Bright addressed a large meeting of electors at Birmingham on Saturday afternoon. The late Government, he said, had been in office six years, and, though they had had a large majority in the House of Commons, and quite as large in the House of Lords, with all this vast and powerful machinery in their hands they had done no great thing, and had passed no great measure which the people of England would have to look back upon with satisfaction and gratitude. Referring to the extension of the county franchise, he said the Liberal party would, doubtless, at no long time after they returned to office, grant to the counties the freedom which had been so long enjoyed by the boroughs. The Government, he found, was very angry with Ireland, and he was not at all astonished that Ireland was angry with them. A country even less loyal than Ireland—a people less passionate than the Irish were supposed to be—would be angry with a Government that for the most part neglected and insulted them by issuing the manifesto sent by the Prime Minister to the Duke of Marlborough. He contended that there had been no outward manifestation that the attention and improvement of Ireland had occupied the time of the Ministry, and that the whole of the care alluded to by the Prime Minister must have been bestowed in absolute secrecy. There were no thanks to the writer of the manifesto that there had been no famine in Ireland during the last thirty years. The Government boasted that they had preserved the peace of Europe, but every one knew that the peace of Europe was not preserved.

The Liberals of Birmingham held three great demonstrations on Monday. The weather was very fine, and the gatherings were attended by nearly twenty thousand persons. Mr. Bright, Mr. Muntz, and Mr. Chamberlain were present at each meeting, and delivered addresses. Votes of confidence were unanimously passed in favour of their reelection. At the last of these meetings, held in Steward-street Board School, at which some 6,000 persons were present, Mr. Bright said: If it had been possible for you during the last six years to have had an accurate account of all the time the Chancellor of the Exchequer and his colleagues have spent in Cabinet Councils on the true interests of England, on your home interests, on your home legislation, you would have found, I believe, it would not have been more than five minutes out of every hour that they spent in discussing the questions abroad with which you have really no interest whatever; and you want a new Cabinet. ("And we shall have one.") It is one of the things I used to complain of myself when I held office in Mr. Gladstone's Government. I used to say, What an extraordinary thing that the Governments of this country always spend so much time about foreign affairs, many of them of no importance to us, and spend comparatively so little time about our home affairs; and I believe if we could have an accurate account of all the Governments of England have done—the Ministries, the Cabinets—during the last 100 years or more, we should find that nine-tenths of that time, thought, and labour has been devoted to matters abroad, connected with wars, conquests, and annexations, gunpowder and glory, and perhaps not more than one-tenth has been expended upon the true interests of England. Do you think that if this country had been more at peace, if its resources had been more husbanded and economised, that it would have been left to the period of Mr. Gladstone's Government within the last ten years to have built these magnificent schools which I see all over your towns? (Never.) No, if you will take the history of the last hundred years and look for the names of what are called great men that were in Parliament and in your public service, you would find that their time was taken up with things far remote from the interests, the true interests, of England and Scotland. Scarcely a man of them ever raised his voice in favour of a system of education which would bring you labouring men, artisans as you are, with your 20s., 30s., or 40s. a week, to a condition of intelligence and a condition of virtue and a condition of comfort, infinitely higher than you ever yet attained to. (Hear, hear.) Now, I am for a policy of peace—"hear, hear," and cheers)—and for a policy of retrenchment—"hear, hear,"—and for a policy of reform. If I thought the constituency of Birmingham wanted the opposite of these—(No)—I should make my bow and go to Rochdale by the first train; but I am sure that you want that which is right and just to every nation in the world—"hear, hear,"—and what is just also to the great nation of which you form a part. You will have an opportunity this week, this memorable week, a week long looked forward to, a week never to be forgotten—you will have an opportunity this week, within the next forty-eight hours, of declaring your opinion, whether you will send two members

to Parliament who have not one particle of sympathy with the real and great interests of the population they have been addressing. No; they are in favour of the gunpowder and glory business. They are not in favour of measures which are essential for the comfort and for the freedom and for the rearing up of your families. All the people of England might have been in condition enormously advanced and improved if a wiser policy in past years had been adopted. (Hear, hear.) Send them, I ask you—if I were not a candidate I should equally ask you—to the House of Commons, to this new-born Parliament which we are looking to spring into existence within the next fortnight, send to that House men really representing your opinions, and not looking half over the world for something there, but looking here, and trying to do the best they can for the population among whom they live. (Cheers.) And if every country, and all Parliaments, and all statesmen, and all potentates would give their attention, their minds, their intelligence to the well-being of their country, you may depend upon it the world would be more at peace, and all people would be more contented and more happy, and you would not have the terrible events which you read of sometimes in Russia, sometimes in Germany; you would not have all Europe covered with soldiers, and its people burdened with military exactions which impoverish them and drive them to courses which are desperate and wicked, it may be to desperate means, because the people have so little consideration and justice shown them.

## MR. W. E. FORSTER.

Mr. W. E. Forster was present at an open-air demonstration of about three thousand working men, held at Bradford, on Saturday afternoon, in support of his candidature. In replying to a resolution condemnatory of the present Government he spoke on the foreign and domestic policy of Lord Beaconsfield. He (Mr. Forster) desired to rise above party considerations; but he asked whether the measures of the Liberals during the past score years had done Conservative working men so much harm that they would rather have a Conservative Government. He then referred to free trade, the franchise, the ballot, and the Education Act. As regarded foreign affairs, what had been the policy of the Liberal party? (A voice: "Peace at any price!" and cheers.) Their policy had been for England to be at peace, not "peace at any price." They were ready to defend the interests of England; and if those present would like to put it in such language, when it came to the question of killing or being killed, the Liberals were prepared to do their duty. (Cheers and "No, No!") In considering the foreign policy of a Government and the question of peace or war, they were not to be guided by sensational newspaper articles, or "Jingo" songs, but they had to remember that war meant distress and bad trade, and, he might add, that a continuance of the present policy in England would mean that they would sooner or later be cursed by the curse which weighed down every other country in Europe, viz., conscription. (Cheers.) It was no vain assertion to say that if the policy adopted by Lord Beaconsfield during the last few years were continued conscription must be one of the results. It was said that England was isolated, especially as regarded Europe; but they knew the fact was that England was less isolated than at any previous period, owing chiefly to the free-trade measures of Cobden and Bright. (Cheers.) So far as regarded international quarrels, God had isolated England by placing it in the middle of the sea; but if the present policy were persisted in the sea would be of little protection against the double calamity of war and conscription. He then advocated reform with regard to the law as to burials, the patent laws, compensation to workmen for injuries, voting in counties, and the redistribution of seats. With reference to what had to be done for their Irish brethren, he was not in favour of the repeal of the Union—(cheers)—as he believed it would injure the country generally, and destroy the prosperity and power of the United Kingdom; nor was he in favour of Home Rule, as he believed it would be a disadvantageous change; but he was in favour of treating Ireland as England and Scotland were treated. Referring to India, he said he did not believe Tory newspapers when they stated that the Liberal party did not wish to preserve India to England. They did wish to preserve it, but not by unreasonable demands and spending millions of money, and losing thousands of lives in wars on savage tribes, and in taking possession of impassable mountains. The Liberal plan of preserving India was by securing it against those fearful famines which, to England's disgrace, had killed thousands, if not millions, of people during the past few years. (Cheers.) As to the colonies, the only desire of the Liberal party on that subject was to increase their unity with the mother country, which could only be done by a more liberal and equal form of Government. The colonies would certainly be lost to England if they were allowed to get ahead of this country in their ideas of freedom and good government, and, while he believed no man living desired their loss, he believed their unity and alliance could only be made secure by a form of administration which tended to give the people in general peace and prosperity. (Cheers.)

## SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOOTE.

Sir S. Northcoote paid a visit to Bideford on Tuesday, and at one o'clock addressed a meeting of the electors in the public hall. There was a large attendance, and the right hon. gentleman, in the course of his address, said: If the Government were to be brought up for judgment on account of the charge which was laid against them, that they had taken too much pains to promote the honour and interests of England, there was no part of the country in which he would more gladly that the issue should be tried than in the North of Devon—and there was no part of North Devon in which he would rather that it should be tried than in the famous old town of Bideford, for they all remembered that formerly it was one of the chief harbours and ports of England, and sent forth its gallant contribution to that great fleet of resistance which defied the power of Spain and upheld the honour of England against great odds and before the rest of Europe. He ventured to think that they, the descendants of the men of that generation, had not degenerated from the spirit of their ancestors, and if this Government were now to be put upon their trial as to whether they had been somewhat jealous for the maintenance of the honour and interests of England, Bideford, at least, would give a verdict of approval. The Government maintained that the policy which they had pursued had been one eminently calculated to prevent and avert war, and he would, without fear of contradiction, maintain that if they wished to preserve the peace of the country one thing was absolutely necessary, and that was, that there should be no



half-heartedness as regarded the intentions and meaning of England. He remembered hearing it said in regard to the Crimean War by a Liberal statesman, that if either the spirit of Lord Palmerston or that of Lord Aberdeen had prevailed, there would have been no war, because it would have been prevented by one spirit or the other, though they were both different; and he was quite sure they ran the risk of the same thing a little while ago, when it was believed that England had wiped herself out of European politics, and no longer claimed to play a part in the councils of Europe. It was then supposed by the Great Powers of the Continent that they might reckon without her, and presume to do what they pleased. It was because they believed that that they went so far in regard to the Berlin Memorandum, and their refusal of all that was reasonable was due to the fact that they believed England would never do more than protest and grumble. If they were to have a Government which was to preserve peace, they must take care they had one which was not guided merely by an impulsive spirit. Every one honoured, respected, and sympathised with the ardour for freedom which characterised many of our leading statesmen on both sides, and he did not deny that Mr. Gladstone was guided and was swayed by a noble and generous spirit—(cheers)—but he did say nothing could be more imprudent and nothing more dangerous or more prejudicial to the interests and honour of the country than that sort of impulsiveness should be allowed to have its way. Many agitating events were now going on in all parts of the world. Peace had been, to a great extent, restored, and he fully believed would be maintained in Europe. He believed the troubles in Africa were over, and in Asia, he hoped, they were as nearly as possible over, and he trusted they had a time before them when they would be able, with renewed energies, and under a more prosperous condition of commercial and agricultural development, to devote their attention to the domestic concerns of the country—(cheers)—but he did feel that if at this moment there were such a change as would lead foreign Powers to believe that the pendulum of England is swinging the other way, and that the questions which were believed to have been closed are to be reopened, there will be nothing but disturbance, distraction, and unsettlement. (Cheers.)

The proceedings concluded with a vote of confidence in the right hon. gentleman.

#### MR. CROSS.

The Right Hon. R. A. Cross and Colonel Blackburne addressed two meetings on Tuesday night at Waterloo and Bootle. At Waterloo, where he met with an enthusiastic reception, Mr. Cross said there was one point upon which he wished anxiously to say a few words, as he had been challenged. He wished to say that when the Artisans' Dwellings Act had been passed it was designed to sweep away the rookeries of London, and owing to the questions of compensation which arose, he had great difficulty in passing it. When people said the Act had been inoperative, he asked them to look at Birmingham; and his charge against those who talked about the Act now (Mr. Bright was one of them) was that they knew that provision was made by which at the end of 1881 12,000 of the artisans of Birmingham and London would be habited in the best of houses instead of rookeries not fit for the habitation of men. (Cheers.) He next congratulated the electors of Liverpool upon the result of their election, and alluded to the weakness of the Liberal party in not being able to get up a contest. (Cheers.) Turning to India, he said Mr. Lowe had been bound to apologise to the House of Commons for the manner in which he had spoken of India during the debate on the Royal Titles Bill. He (Mr. Cross) having that in his mind, had attributed to Mr. Lowe a remark about India which had been made by Mr. Freeman. He had much pleasure in setting that matter right so far as Mr. Lowe was concerned. He did not think there was an elector of South-west Lancashire who did not believe our connection with India should be maintained, and that we should be prepared to defend her at all points. Lord Hartington had said that all we needed was that Afghanistan should exist, and that we need not be on friendly terms with her, but that we need only take care that she was not on friendly terms with anybody else. Why, there was a treaty between this country and Dost Mahomed of a defensive kind, which Lord Hartington did not care to allude to. Dost Mahomed had always said the treaty was one-sided, and when Sher Ali came to the throne he wanted to know if England would defend him if attacked. Lord Mayo practically gave the assurance that if he was attacked we should defend him. We never gave the promise in writing, but the assurance was none the less given that we were to assist him with arms and with men if he were in peril. The Liberal Government then came into power, and Russia continued to advance, and the Ameer came almost on his knees to us to know what we were going to do. Lord Northbrook gave him the assurance that if he were attacked we would support him. Then there were conferences and conferences, and Lord Northbrook telegraphed home for instructions, and was then warned not to give too much assurance. Well, the result of all these conferences was that the question was put off to a more convenient opportunity. Then the Ameer turned away from us. Lord Hartington had not told all this. That was the bottom of the whole story. Mr. Gladstone had asked, Could we not trust our native envoys? Why, the evidence of the native envoys themselves showed it was this putting off to a more convenient opportunity that set the Ameer against us. They were called the war party, but he was prepared to defend their actions throughout, and to show that all they had done was done with the view to preserve the position of England in the councils of Europe, and to secure, as far as they could, the interests of peace and civilisation throughout the world. (Loud cheers.)

#### MR. BOURKE.

Mr. Bourke addressed a meeting on Tuesday evening, at the theatre, King's Lynn. The great question for the electors, he said, to decide was whether the future destinies of this country were to be ruled by those who had conducted them during a period of unexampled difficulties and dangers, or by those who had thwarted the Government in every possible way. Mr. Bourke then entered upon an elaborate defence of the foreign and colonial policy of her Majesty's Government. In conclusion, Mr. Bourke asked: "Is subservience to Russia to be the edifice upon which our English policy is to be built, or the policy which we have advocated for the last three or four years, and which Mr. Gladstone says he has done his best to oppose? Our opponents have seen that the country has been with us. They have trumped up every kind of accusation against us which ingenuity can

fabricate. They have maligned public servants who were doing their duty in all parts of the world; and they have even impugned the honour and the humanity of English officers. All their prophecies have turned out to be untrue. We have been told that we have filched Cyprus, but can anything be more untrue? Before the Anglo-Turkish Convention was signed the plenipotentiaries at Berlin were informed of it. There was nothing underhanded about it, and the only persons that had any right to complain of the secrecy that was maintained were the enemies of England." (Cheers.) The hon. gentleman then referred to the various questions of domestic policy which had been carried out by the late Government.

#### COUNTY CONTESTS.

##### MIDDLESEX.

The election for this county, which usually comes very late, has been fixed for the earliest possible date—Saturday next—thus shortening the time for the organisation of the Liberal forces in the interests of their candidate. Mr. Herbert Gladstone and his committee have, however, been indefatigable in visiting the various districts, and two, and oftentimes three, meetings a day have been held at which the candidate has been received with much favour and enthusiasm. There were three on Saturday. In the morning Mr. Gladstone addressed the electors of Edmonton and neighbourhood, Mr. Whitely occupying the chair. In the afternoon, at four o'clock, there was a large assemblage of several hundred of ladies and gentlemen in the open air in the grounds of Alexandra-park College, Hornsey. Mr. John Alexander, chairman of the local committee, presided. A resolution to the effect that the constituents, having at length an opportunity of expressing a decisive opinion on the policy of the Government, the meeting trusted that the result of the General Election about to take place would be the election of the Conservatives from office, was moved by the Rev. A. Hannay, secretary of the Congregational Union, who made a very impressive speech, seconded by Mr. Henry Spicer, and carried with some dissentients. Mr. H. Gladstone then said: That, although about ten days ago he had been very doubtful about the issue of the struggle on account of the state of the poll at the last election, he was now very confident of success, and was determined to throw aside all recollections of former struggles in Middlesex. He warned the electors that if they showed by their votes that they were in favour of a continuance of the policy of the Government they would become responsible for the disastrous wars which had taken place in Afghanistan and Zululand as well as for the stagnation of domestic legislation. He might inform them that everything was well in Midlothian, and he could tell his Conservative friends that they might as well give up the struggle there, as it became every day clearer that they had not the slightest chance of success. In regard to finance, we had been told lately that the present Government, besides upholding the credit of England in Europe, and bringing about peace with honour and "imperium et libertas," was the great financial Government of the century. (Laughter.) They said they had reduced taxation generally; but he thought it was pretty plain that their expenditure was £8,000,000 more than that of the last Liberal administration, putting it at the lowest figure. (Cheers.) What would this £8,000,000 amount to? In the case of such a town as Birmingham it meant that £100,000 a year had been added to the taxes of the inhabitants in consequence of our being in possession of that great and unspeakable blessing, a Tory Government. (Cheers.) Mr. W. H. Gladstone, who is himself a candidate for East Worcestershire, also addressed the meeting. After severely criticising the foreign policy of the Government, he remarked that he did not know whether he ought to say it, but he thought the electors of Middlesex had a candidate in his brother worthy of their suffrages. (Hear, hear.) He asked them to elect him because of his personal merits if they would, or because of the name he bore, which was enshrined in the hearts of all true Liberals—(cheers, and three cheers for Gladstone)—but more than all because he was the representative of a great, nay, a sacred cause. A vote of thanks to the chairman was moved by Mr. W. Green of Highgate, and seconded by the proprietor of the grounds. In the course of the proceedings great emphasis was laid upon the importance of electors plumping for Mr. Herbert Gladstone, that is putting one cross against his name. Before the day of polling the Liberal candidate will have addressed nearly twenty meetings in different parts of the county during the present week.

Lord George Hamilton and Mr. Coope have been attending Conservative meetings daily, and are much supported by the clergy and the publicans.

We are requested by Mr. Herbert Gladstone's Committee to state that in consequence of the Middlesex election having, at the instance of the Conservatives, been fixed for an unprecedentedly early day (Saturday), they have been unable fully to carry out their plans for the holding of meetings in London. Mr. Herbert Gladstone will, however, address meetings at Bow and Bromley Institute and Shoreditch Town-hall to-morrow evening.

We believe that Mr. Gladstone has made such progress in the outlying districts of the county during the short time he has been a candidate, that if the Liberal electors of Middlesex who reside within the metropolitan boroughs will generally go to the poll early on Saturday there is good hope of a triumphant result.

##### WEST KENT.

On Saturday afternoon, Mr. H. M. Bompas, Q.C., the Liberal candidate for West Kent, addressed the electors for the first time in the Temperance Hall, in the Market-place, Dartford. The hall was crowded, and large numbers failed to gain admission, and were subsequently addressed from the window of the One Bell, Dartford. At this meeting, as at three subsequent meetings held at the Bear Hotel, Crayford, the new Public Hall, Bexley-heath, and at the Congregational Hall, Sidcup, Mr. Bompas was enthusiastically received. Dealing with foreign policy, Mr. Bompas adverted to the heretofore unique character held by England in the estimation of other Powers as being the least selfish, the least aggressive, and the least covetous of territory of all the Powers, but this character had been lost. England's name was no longer associated with the advancement of religious and political freedom, but with efforts for the suppression of the freedom of the subject races of Turkey. The Government had been careless of England's moral ascendancy while hankering after a little military glory. The Eastern Question, which they claimed to have settled, was as far from settlement as ever, and the wars they had made, and for which they asked the public sanction, had only ended in fresh complications. The foreign policy had failed at all points

because it was unwise and untrue. They had, of course, plenty of excuses, but people who were good at excuses were seldom good at anything else. The excuse that foreign trouble had precluded home legislation was not true as regarded the two years prior to the commencement of those foreign troubles. Turning to the question of the reform of the land laws, Mr. Bompas urged that the transfer of land should be made as was the transfer of a horse. If you bought a horse of a man who did not own it, you would get your money back, but this was not so in the case of land or houses; if a man's title was bad, he had to put up with it. With regard to Home Rule he was for drawing the bonds of union tighter with Ireland, but the manifesto of Lord Beaconsfield was, in his judgment, calculated to loosen those bonds, and he would remind them that Home Rule had come to the front during a Tory Administration. As to the licensing question, they had to choose between judicious regulation, entire suppression, and complete freedom. He could not vote for Sir Wilfrid Lawson's Permissive Bill, but he was inclined to give the magistrates the power to control the character of licensed houses, and to the people the power of veto upon the increase of the number of licences. He should vote for the assimilation of the borough and county franchise, and a redistribution of seats. He should support Disestablishment when he found the time had come, and the people were ready for that change; he did not think the time had come, and there were far more pressing issues before the people. He was a Baptist, and he thought that an Establishment was inimical to the fortunes of a Christian Church. The law of distress was not free from difficulty in consequence of the legal relations by which it was surrounded; though suitable to a time past when the action of the common law was slower, it was now unfitted to modern requirements and ideas, and the time had come for some changes. At each of the meetings votes of confidence were passed almost unanimously.

The reports from the canvassers on behalf of Mr. Bompas are of a most encouraging character, and everything bids for success. Mr. Bompas has issued a circular to his canvassers that any treating or payment to an elector to influence his vote will vitiate the election. He is determined not to be returned for West Kent except by fair means. Mr. May, the tenant farmer candidate, has pledged himself to go to the poll. Seeing the favour that Mr. May is daily gaining amongst the electors, it is rumoured that Lord Lewisham (who is very young, and not very popular) will withdraw from the contest.

##### EAST SURREY.

A large meeting has been held at the Balham Institute, Mr. James Brand in the chair, at which Messrs. Robinson and Medley, the Liberal candidates, were received with the greatest enthusiasm. A resolution was passed, with very few dissentients, pledging the meeting to use every effort to secure their return to Parliament. Great amusement was caused by a gentleman questioning the candidates as to their views on Disestablishment, Disendowment, and Home Rule. Mr. Robinson saying that no candidate was pledging to press his views on the two former, and there was no Conservative more opposed to Home Rule than he was. Wherever the candidates have addressed the electors they have met with a most hearty reception. Even the clerical and the liquor interests seem divided. On the Liberal Committee appear the names of the Vicar of St. Barnabas, South Lambeth, and of Mr. Aubrey Price, Vicar of St. James's, Clapham, one of the most popular of Evangelical clergymen in the South of London. As for the licensed victuallers, it is impossible to travel through East Surrey without being struck by the visible evidence of their divided opinion.

##### MID-SURREY.

A most enthusiastic meeting was held at the Assize Courts, Kingston-on-Thames, on Saturday, in support of the Liberal candidates for Mid-Surrey, Messrs. Sydney Stern and J. Napier Higgins, Q.C. Mr. Herman Merivale, late editor of the *Annual Register*, took the chair. The candidates received a most enthusiastic welcome, which, coupled with the daily increasing warmth of their reception in every part of the division, augurs well for their success on the polling day. The views of the candidates, now so well known, were received with enthusiastic applause, but at the close of Mr. Higgins' speech, the gas was suddenly extinguished, and the whole company adjourned to the Market-place, where the candidates and other well-known speakers addressed about 2,000 persons from the windows of the Sun Hotel. On Saturday afternoon, the Conservative candidates for this division, Sir Henry Peek and Sir Trevor Lawrence, attended to address a meeting of their supporters at the Shaftesbury Hall. A resolution expressing confidence in the candidates was put and declared by the chairman to be carried, but an amendment expressing want of confidence, and pledging the meeting to support Messrs. Stern and Higgins, the Liberal candidates, was carried by an overwhelming majority of more than two-thirds of the audience, and the meeting broke up amidst the greatest confusion. On Monday the Liberal candidates addressed no fewer than eight meetings, and at every one they were received with great enthusiasm. They spoke at another very enthusiastic meeting in the Drill Hall, Wimbledon, on Tuesday night, at which not much less than a thousand persons must have been present. The great industrial population of Battersea, which forms so large a proportion of the constituency, ought to be powerful enough to place Messrs. Stern and Higgins at the head of the poll.

##### BEDFORDSHIRE.

The county will now be contested, Mr. James Howard, of Clapham Park, president of the Farmers' Alliance, having consented to stand as an independent Liberal candidate. The Marquis of Tavistock refuses to coalesce with him. Mr. Howard, in his address, says that he is a strong supporter of the farming interest, being president of the Farmers' Alliance. The agricultural reforms that had long been needed had for a considerable time engaged his attention and occupied his pen. He had worked with Mr. Sewell Read to prevent the spread of the cattle disease, in which direction he had never relaxed his efforts. The Agricultural Holdings Act of the present Government was taken from his own Bill. If returned to the House of Commons he would strive to make the Bill a reality. His motto would be agriculture first, politics afterwards. The present Government was chosen as the friend of the farmers, but they had not fulfilled their promises or obligations. He was in favour of the modification of the law of entail and the simplification of the registration of land, and would support tenants having ground game. He advocated the repeal of the malt tax and reform in local government taxation. Rates should be fairly apportioned between landlords and tenants. It was not his



intention to canvass for votes nor to resort to the usual costly machinery of elections, but he assured the electors that if returned he would devote himself to the utmost in the interest of his constituents. In conclusion, Mr. Howard announces his concurrence in the address of Lord Hartington.

## CARNARVONSHIRE.

This county constituency, hitherto regarded as a Conservative stronghold, is being contested by Mr. Watkin Williams, Q.C., late M.P. for the Denbigh Boroughs, who is actively opposing the return of the Hon. Douglas Pennant, Lord Penrhyn's heir. The result, there is little doubt, will be exceedingly close. Both sides are working energetically, and, despite Mr. Pennant's large majority in 1874, the Liberals express confidence in the success of their candidate, whose reception in the chief industrial centres of the county has been of a most enthusiastic character. Mr. Pennant has the support of most of the landed proprietors, but one serious defection from the Conservative interest is that of the Newborough Estate, which is almost paramount in South Carnarvonshire. So far is this feeling apparent that Mr. Pennant was unable to obtain a hearing when he essayed to address the farmers at Pwllheli Market on Wednesday.

## WORCESTER (WEST.)

Mr. H. R. Willis has issued an address as a tenant-farmers' candidate, in which he says:—"I am in favour of the Agricultural Holdings Act being made compulsory instead of permissive—a reality instead of a sham. A tenant farmer should have at least a year's notice to quit, and legal security for compensation for all unexhausted improvements. He ought to have perfect freedom in the cultivation of the soil, and in the sale of its produce. The laws affecting the ownership and transfer of the land require reform, involving the abolition of the law of primogeniture and the power of entail. The power given to the landlord by the present law of distress creates a false competition for land, and ought to be abolished. I would give to the tenant farmer the absolute right over the ground game on the land he occupies, and a legal claim for compensation for damage done by the over-preservation of winged game. I should advocate any measure that would give the farmers a voice in controlling the county expenditure. This might be done by empowering them to elect representatives to the Court of Quarter Sessions. The increased cost of the maintenance of the highways of the country consequent on the removal of turnpikes should be made an imperial instead of a local burden."

DEVON (EAST).—Lieutenant-Colonel Sterling has come forward as a Liberal candidate for this division, and as acknowledging the leadership of Lord Hartington. In the course of his address he says:—"I am prepared to support Mr. Osborne Morgan's Burial Bill. The delusive character of the Agricultural Holdings Act passed by the present Government is unfortunately too obvious. I shall support any judicious amendment that gives tenants full security for their capital invested. I shall shortly retire from my profession, and, therefore, shall have ample time to attend to the interests of the county, in which I am a landowner, should you do me the honour to elect me as one of your representatives."

KENT (EAST).—The Liberal candidate for East Kent (Mr. Davies) addressed the electors on Tuesday at Hythe, and was accorded a vote of confidence. Mr. Davies stated that his canvass had been successful, and that he felt sanguine of wresting one of the seats from the Conservatives.

LINCOLNSHIRE (NORTH).—It is announced that Mr. R. Laycock, of Wiseton Hall, will contest the constituency in the Liberal interest.

LINCOLNSHIRE (SOUTH).—Mr. Charles Sharpe, of Sleaford, at a meeting held at Spalding yesterday, consented to contest the division in the Liberal interest, and has issued his address.

MID-CHESHIRE.—The prospects of Mr. Latham and Mr. Armitage are felt on all hands to be of the brightest character. Wherever they go they are received with enthusiasm, and the Liberals are expressing themselves confident of victory.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Messrs. Brodick and Warrington, the Liberal candidates, have commenced their campaign, and had an enthusiastic reception at Abergavenny, Newport, Rhymney, Tredegar, Ebbw Vale, Abertillery, Blaenau, and other places that they have visited.

NORTHUMBERLAND (NORTH).—Mr. John Clay, Kercesters, Liberal, has been adopted as the tenant farmers' candidate.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (NORTH).—The Hon. C. R. Spencer, the Liberal candidate for North Northamptonshire, has been addressing enthusiastic meetings in the county. The canvass made by the Liberal is most satisfactory, and success is looked upon as certain.

SOUTH-WEST LANCASHIRE.—So well have the "Six Hundred" in Southport worked that they have now got their canvass almost complete. They believe that they will secure a large majority in favour of their candidates. They, at least, are sanguine of gaining a seat in the county for Mr. Rathbone.

STAFFORDSHIRE (EAST).—On Saturday night Messrs. M. A. Bass and H. Wiggins, the Liberal candidates, addressed a crowded meeting of the electors in the Public Hall, Smethwick, and a vote of confidence was passed. A few Conservatives attended and attempted to disturb the proceedings, but, in spite of the appeals of the chairman and Mr. Bass, they were expelled. In the scuffle one man had his arm broken.

SUSSEX (EAST).—Mr. Alexander Donovan, J.P., of Framfield-place, near Uckfield, and of Palmyra-square, Brighton, and Mr. John Pearson, Q.C., of 75, Onslow-square, London, have been chosen by the Liberal party to fight their battle, and have issued their addresses.

SOUTH ESSEX.—At East Ham on Monday the Liberal candidates for South Essex, Messrs. Buxton and Lyell, stated that they would not advocate Disestablishment, although in favour of reform in the churchyards, and in the sale and purchase of advowsons. Both gave an affirmative reply to the question whether or not clergymen of the Established Church should be prohibited from other paid occupations where the tithes exceed £1,000 per annum. The Vicar, the Rev. S. H. Reynolds, presided at the meeting. Great confidence is expressed that one of the Liberals, if not both, will be returned.

Mr. Joseph Arch expresses himself confident of success in Wilton.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

LORD DERBY AND THE LIBERAL PARTY.—Lord Derby's land agent has published the following letter addressed to him by his lordship:—

Dear Hale,—From various letters addressed to me, directly and through third parties, I infer that, notwithstanding my published letter to Lord Sefton, there is still in the minds of my neighbours a doubt as to my wishes and sympathies in the present crisis. As a peer and as a landowner I am bound to abstain from attempting in any way to influence the pending election, and I intend, as I always have done, to keep strictly within the recognised limits of duty in this respect; but while not asking you to take any step inconsistent with this declaration, I may repeat the request which I have already addressed to you, to make it clearly understood that my wishes are for the success of the Liberal cause.—Very faithfully yours, DERBY.

EARL GREY AND MR. GLADSTONE.—Earl Grey has sent a letter to the *Newcastle Chronicle*, giving his reasons why, although a Liberal, his wishes in the county of Northumberland are in favour of Sir M. White Ridley and Earl Percy. He is of opinion that if Mr. Gladstone should come into office the spirit of his Government would be one of reckless and dangerous change, and he adds, "The old Whig creed seems to be utterly repudiated by Mr. Gladstone and his most active followers, and I should therefore see with alarm the conduct of public affairs brought under his guidance." Lord Grey, in continuation, objects strongly to Home Rule, and believes in a firm administration of Ireland. He thinks a change of Government at this moment would be nothing short of a public calamity.

ELECTION OUTRAGES.—The election excesses visible in the present contest have much of the rancour and brutality of old times without the humour that at least enlivened the grossness. At Shoreditch the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whose eminent position should of itself have secured him a courteous reception, was refused a hearing by an organised mob of "Liberals." At Hull and various other places the platform has been carried by storm, the benches torn up and used as bludgeons, the chairs turned into knock-down missiles, the windows smashed and the gas turned off, leaving darkness to drop a friendly curtain over so many broken noses, black eyes, and cracked heads. In South Durham, Colonel Surtees, the Conservative candidate, was mobbed, his carriage wrecked, and himself injured. At Ashton-under-Lyne, the local roughs treated in exactly the same way the Liberal candidate, Mr. Hugh Mason, whose past conduct as a generous benefactor of the town should have sufficed to render his person sacred from attack, even by hostile partisans. At Newcastle Mr. Joseph Cowen was so seriously hurt in a rough crowd that he has been obliged to abstain from taking any further active part in the election. More brutal, and at the same time unaccountable, was the attempt made by a crowd at Kirkwall, in the Orkney Islands, to drown Mr. John Pender, by pushing his carriage into the sea—an attempt only frustrated by mere accident. What explanation can be given of this it is vain to surmise. The political opinions of Mr. Pender and the usually peaceful and certainly intelligent Orcadians are supposed to be nearly akin, and their worst enemy has never said that, like the coarser aborigines of a certain county, they are prone to "leave a brick" at a gentleman because he is a stranger. Probably electioneering excitement has been too much for them, and the inference is that, unless the greatest care be taken by leaders and agents on both sides, the excesses as yet indulged in will prove to be nothing to the violence to come.—*Telegraph*.

MR. PARNELL MOBBED AT ENNISCORTHY (WEXFORD COUNTY).—A meeting, far surpassing in its determination, its confusion and uproar, as well as in its numbers, anything seen since the old nomination days, and seldom equalled even then, took place on Sunday at Enniscorthy. The active Home Rule party had put forward Mr. John Barry and Mr. G. Byrne as candidates for the representation of the county, and it was arranged by the County Wexford Independent Club that Mr. Parnell should go down to support their candidature. Mr. Parnell took the train at Rathdrum, the station near his own residence, on the Dublin and Wicklow line, and at one or two of the immediately succeeding stations he was cheered. He was accompanied by Mr. Barry, who spoke to the people from the carriage window at Ferns. As the train was getting nearer to the heart of County Wexford, the tone changed, and the crowd on the platform cheered Mr. O'Clery, and cried "Down with Parnell," and "No dictation." The meeting at Enniscorthy was fixed for half-past two, but before two o'clock the platform was taken possession of by the supporters of Mr. O'Clery, including the Rev. Mr. O'Gorman, P.P., Enniscorthy, and four or five other priests. Around the platform were closely packed together in thousands the supporters of Mr. O'Clery, and whenever a friend of Mr. Parnell appeared on the platform he was immediately ejected, the priests taking an active part in this operation when necessary. In the meantime Mr. Parnell and his party held a council as to whether they should proceed to the scene of action, a question which seemed to have been at last decided in the affirmative, for by-and-by they were seen approaching the top of the hill, accompanied by a band. They made the best of their way towards the platform, and Mr. Parnell got up, but it was not until several hard fights had occurred that he made his way towards the front. The members of the Independent Club were hustled off the platform, and not one of them was permitted afterwards to make his appearance. The fighting and uproar continued off and on the platform for some time. Mr. Parnell, when he reached the front, was struck on the face with an orange. Several attempts were made to remove him by force. He was caught round the waist several times by priests and others and pushed from the hand-rail in front of the platform, while others sought to catch him by the legs and pull him off in front. Father O'Gorman was amidst continuous uproar moved to the chair, and throughout the proceedings, being a stalwart man and armed with a good black thorn stick, he kept his place well from beginning to end. At length Mr. Parnell began to speak, but every word he uttered was followed by an outburst of yelling, and cheers for O'Clery. When this had lasted some time, Father Dunne, a member of Mr. Parnell's party, came in front of the platform and asked Mr. Parnell to slip down and go to the hotel and address a meeting there. Father Dunne's hand was bleeding from a wound received in the encounter. Mr. Parnell, however, refused. Ultimately Mr. O'Clery came to the front and asked the crowd to give Mr. Parnell a hearing. Mr. Parnell was somewhat better heard after this, and proceeded to speak in support of Mr. Barry. Eventually the two candidates—Mr. O'Clery and Mr. Barry—having been put forward by the chairman, were declared adopted; and Mr. Parnell having explained that he had not come there to dic-

tate to them, but to support his friend Mr. Barry, the proceedings terminated.

MR. LOWE AND THE DOCLILE PARLIAMENT.—The Right Hon. Robert Lowe contributes an article to the April number of the *Nineteenth Century*, entitled the "Docility of an 'Imperial' Parliament." He draws attention to the suspicious anxiety of the Prime Minister to prove that it was always intended that Parliament should be dissolved as soon as a Bill for relieving Irish distress had become law, and says that nothing would have been so natural as to have given to the House the information as to his intention which the Premier imparted to the Lord Lieutenant. Mr. Lowe condemns the manner in which the House of Commons have, on several occasions, been treated by the Government, and asks the following question—"Are the electors prepared to return Parliaments which, instead of sedulously guarding their rights and liberties, deliberately sacrifice them at the shrine of party, and sooner than concede any advantage to their antagonists are content to offer up to the Moloch of narrow partisanship the honour and the power which, in an evil hour, has been entrusted to their hands?"

The Government are evidently determined to leave no stone unturned to secure the return of the Tory candidates for the dockyard towns. Last week a sort of semi-official announcement was made that, if the present Ministers retain office, they will authorise a great increase of expenditure in all the yards, while the Admiralty has published a formal notice that the workmen are to have a half holiday on the polling day, without loss of pay. As the hands are just as able as other working men to vote during their dinner hour, the Government are really offering a bribe of 3s. or 4s. to each man.

DIRECTIONS TO LIBERAL VOTERS.—You cannot give two votes to one candidate. If there are two Liberal candidates for two seats, vote for both Liberals. If there is only one Liberal candidate and two seats, vote for the Liberal only. Don't divide your votes between a Liberal and a Tory, because you might as well stay away from the poll altogether. Make a × opposite the name of the Liberal candidate, or Liberal candidates, on the voting paper.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS DONE AT HOME.—The following effective statement is being circulated in Middlesex:—

By its disgraceful Slave Circulars, it tried to deprive slaves of the protection of the British flag.

It has strenuously, and successfully, struggled to retain flogging in the Army and Navy.

It would, by its Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, have made meat dearer to the consumer, without affording adequate security against cattle disease.

It is proposed to make the public pay an extravagant amount of money to the London Water Companies, who have charged the ratepayers an exorbitant price for bad water.

It has passed an Artisans and Labourers' Dwellings Act of so clumsy a character that it has proved a failure.

It has also passed an Agricultural Holdings Act which has turned out to be nothing but a delusion and a sham.

It has opposed all attempts to give Dissenters their rights in the parochial burial-places, and has left the Burial laws in a hopeless state of confusion.

It tried to pass a reactionary Bill to turn the Endowed Schools Act to sectarian purposes.

It helped to pass the Public Worship Regulation Act, which has effected no good and has led to great scandals.

Its latest act has been to levy higher Probate Duties on the personal property of the middle classes, while it has left real property untouched.

Electors of Middlesex! You are asked to give new power to a Government which has not only grossly blundered abroad, but has sacrificed the national interests at home. Give an emphatic negative, by triumphantly returning HERBERT GLADSTONE.

LORD CLIFTON AND THE MID-KENT ELECTION.—In reply to the challenge of the Tory agent for Mid-Kent, who has paraded the name of Mr. Ivo Bligh, a younger son of the Earl of Darnley, a Cambridge undergraduate, on the "committee" for securing the return of the two baronets for Mid-Kent, Lord Clifton, an elder son of the Earl, who has sat as a Conservative peer for thirty-two years, has addressed a letter to the *South-Eastern Gazette*, in which he declares that, "having broken free from the delusive toils of an 'advanced popular Conservatism' at Rochester, I am now heart and soul, through thick and thin, and for the rest of my natural life, a decided Liberal, and that I therefore most heartily sympathise with Messrs. Cazalet and Elphinstone in Mid-Kent, Mr. Otway and Sir J. Goldsmid at Rochester (in spite of the vaccination question), Mr. Bevan at Gravesend, and all other Liberal candidates. Mr. Herbert Gladstone's candidature in Middlesex commands my warmest sympathy and the utmost pecuniary support which I could afford to give him, considering as I do that constituencies should pay for their candidates, and that election expenses should not be maintained as a crushing entrance fee to a fashionable club, such as Parliament has hitherto been."

It is worthy of note, that though Baron H. De Worms, Mr. Saul Isaac, and Sir Julius Vogel are Jewish candidates, standing in the Conservative interest, no less than six Jews are Liberal candidates for English constituencies—viz., Mr. Arthur Cohen, Sir Julian Goldsmid, Mr. Serjeant Simon, Mr. Sydney Stern, Mr. Sydney Wolff, and Sir N. de Rothschild, all of whom, save the last, are loyal Liberals.—*The Echo*.

The Labourers' League has issued an earnest appeal to the working-class electors, urging them to support those candidates only who are in favour of an extension of the county franchise. The appeal points out that the only way the farm labourers can be enfranchised is by the present working-class voters returning members pledged to the cause of reform. The present land and game laws are unsparingly condemned.

At a meeting in Manchester on Saturday in support of Messrs. Armitage and Arnold, the Liberal candidates for Salford, Mr. Councillor Whittaker, just after seconding a resolution, was observed to be unwell. Immediate assistance was rendered, and Mr. Whittaker was removed to an adjoining house, but before medical aid could be procured the unfortunate gentleman expired. He had recently suffered from heart disease.

In addressing a meeting of his supporters in Rochester on Monday, Sir Julian Goldsmid said the Liberals had every prospect of winning seven seats in Kent—two at Canterbury, two at Dover, one at Chatham, one in Mid-Kent, and one in East Kent.

At a Liberal meeting held at Nottingham on Tuesday night, a letter from Mr. John Bright to Mr. Wright was read, in which the right hon. gentleman said:—"The prospects of the General Election are considered to be highly favourable. I am sanguine that Nottingham will send two good men to a Liberal party who will support a Liberal policy. Here (Birmingham) our friends are in excellent spirits, and look for a complete success."



**Herbert Gladstone for Middlesex.**  
**MR. GLADSTONE WILL ADDRESS**  
 MEETINGS  
 TO-MORROW (Friday), at TURNHAM-GREEN VESTRY HALL at 12.  
 " " TWICKENHAM ASSEMBLY ROOMS at 3.  
 " " BOW and BROMLEY INSTITUTE, Bow  
 road, at 5.30.  
 " " SHOREDITCH TOWN HALL, at 6.30.  
 " " HANWELL, at 8.30.  
 Committee Room, 51, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

**Herbert Gladstone for Middlesex.**  
 IT having been resolved to return the son of the illustrious statesman, W. E. GLADSTONE, free of expense to himself contributions to the Election Fund are requested. They may be made payable to HUGH MATHESON, Esq., the Treasurer, and cheques may be crossed Barclay and Co.  
 SAMUEL MORLEY, Chairman.

**GLADSTONE for MIDDLESEX.—VOLUNTEERS**  
 willing to HELP on the POLLING DAY on SATURDAY are requested to call at the Committee Room to-morrow (Friday), 51, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

**University of London.**  
**PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, MARCH, 1880.**  
 NOTICE is hereby given, that the Vice-Chancellor of the University of London will proceed to the ELECTION of a MEMBER to serve in PARLIAMENT for the UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, on Tuesday, March 30th, at ELEVEN O'CLOCK precisely, in the University, Burlington Gardens. All Graduates whose Names are on the Register of Convocation are invited to attend at such Time and Place. (Signed) JOHN LUBBOCK, Vice-Chancellor.  
 March 24th, 1880. Returning Officer.

**SOIREE AND PUBLIC MEETING,**  
**ST. JAMES'S HALL, APRIL 7th,**  
 To celebrate the HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY of the Birth of  
**WILLIAM ELLERY CHANNING, D.D.,**  
 When addresses will be delivered by the Rev. Dr. MARTINEAU, the Rev. J. BALDWIN BROWN, B.A., THOMAS HUGHES, Esq., Q.C., Dr. W. B. CARPENTER, F.R.S., Dr. R. LAIRD COLLIER, formerly of Boston, U.S., and others, on the various aspects of Dr. Channing's work and influence as a Christian teacher and the earnest advocate of liberty and social reform.  
 An address has been sent by the Dean of Westminster to be read at the meeting. Tea at 6.30. Organ Recital at 7 by Mr. Thomas Pettit, Organist to the Bach Choir.  
 Soiree tickets, 1s. Soiree and Reserved Seats, 2s. Tickets for the Public Meeting free, to be had from Rev. H. Ierson, M.A., 37, Norfolk-street, Strand, London.

**London Congregational Union.**  
**HENRY WRIGHT, Esq., J.P., Chairman.**  
**THE ANNUAL MEETING** will be held at the MEMORIAL HALL, Farringdon-street, on TUESDAY, 27th April.  
 Ministers, deacons, and delegates are specially requested to note the date. ANDREW MEARNS, Secretary.  
 Memorial Hall, March 31, 1880.

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THE  
**Nonconformist and Independent.**  
 [Combining the Patriot, Nonconformist, and English Independent.]  
 THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1880.

### FOREIGN POLITICIANS AND LORD BEACONSFIELD.

It is a happy thing for the Liberal cause that the Continental politicians are so unanimous and cordial in their support of Lord BEACONSFIELD and the Tories. It is about the surest sign that the honour and dignity of England are very unsafe in their hands. *Ce cher* BEACONSFIELD almost rivals *ce cher* ABERDEEN in the good graces of Continental despots, though for very different reasons. Lord ABERDEEN was the object of imperial favour because he was supposed to be so unsuspicious and pacific that any game of ambition might be safely played before his very eyes. Lord BEACONSFIELD shares the favour because he has dragged, and will drag, England into the *mêlée* of Continental enmities and jealousies, and will be sure, if he has time enough, so to entangle and impoverish her that she will no longer be able to lift up her voice with the same force, as of old, against the oppressor, or to stand forth as the champion of the weak and helpless. Lord BEACONSFIELD's policy is like unto theirs, who believe in blood and iron as the ruling forces in Christendom; and England, under his leadership, will become as one of their realms, scrambling for prizes and plunder like the rest. And therefore, because they understand him so well, and would have so much fellow-feeling for what he will make of England if his lease of power is renewed, they flatter his vanity by their adulations, and hope speedily to congratulate him on his success at the polls.

But Continental politicians do not know Englishmen. The candidate of the Continent is sure to be beaten at the polls, if the electors once take the fact that the Emperors and their Cabinets favour him into their minds. If Prince BISMARCK would but write a letter expressing the sympathy he is known to cherish, it would make the matter sure. Englishmen suspect the Greeks "bearing gifts" in the shape of praises; and will find no difficulty in coming to the safe conclusion that the worst minister for England is the man of whom everybody speaks well abroad. Continental statesmen long to see England mix herself up with the turmoils of European politics; her calm abstention, and the strength which she has been able thereby to gather, while every nation in Europe in turn has been dissipating its treasure and thinning its population in bloody battlefields, causes intense irritation abroad. They know that the policy is a wise one; nay, they would give much to be able to follow it; but as they cannot, or think that they cannot do so, the spectacle of peaceful, prosperous, contented, progressive England is a perpetual reproach to them—a constant, though silent, censor of their folly and shame. They know perfectly well that England has no chance of continuing "too dam' comfortable" under the BEACONSFIELD régime; and we are afraid that they are malicious enough to regard with warm satisfaction the prospect of our being made to share the cares and the burdens which press upon all of them, and which crush some of them to the dust. The complaint of the abstention of England from the field of Continental politics is really a jealous complaint. It means, not that the European nations want our

help; but that they cannot bear to see us free from war taxation and the conscription—free to attend to the interests of our world-wide Empire, while they have to maintain the burden of excessive armaments, and load themselves to breaking-strain with the exigencies of a peace which is really more costly and wasteful, in the long run, than open war. So they wish Lord BEACONSFIELD success; for they know that he cannot long forbear meddling with Continental politics, and muddling when he meddles; and the Austro-German allies are further firmly persuaded that his furious hatred of Russia will make him a facile tool in their hands in their, as yet, undeveloped policy with regard to the Balkan peninsula and Constantinople.

Continental politics! We are not ashamed to confess to a very hearty weariness of what goes by the name. Special correspondents in all the great cities of Europe keep us fully informed of the looks, the gestures, and the tones of "distinguished persons," ministers, ambassadors, monarchs, and the like; and reading, as, alas! one is bound to read, their wearisome, monotonous correspondence, one is tempted to think that the peace of Europe is seriously menaced by the omission of a visiting card, or the lifting of an eyebrow, and is kept in a most unhealthy condition of chronic anxiety and alarm. It is really very depressing to read columns, day after day, about the looks and the tones, the letters and the sayings, the whispers and the "asides" of a few prominent persons, who play their parts before the footlights on the stage of the political theatre, and to see on what purely personal motives and considerations the most important events are supposed to turn. One must study the expressions which flit across the faces of ambassadors and their masters, to know whether the hundreds of millions of industrious workmen who are scattered over Europe will be allowed to carry on their callings and earn their daily bread in peace. Prince ORLOFF leaves Paris without dropping his card at the Elysée, and all Europe is kept in a ferment of agitation for days till "the incident" has been exhausted; the Czar is supposed to look coldly on General CHANZY, and straightway there are columns of discussion about his sick leave or his recall. Emperors exchange effusive letters, and publish them, and it is settled at once that there can be no war in their lifetime; anon their Chancellors get squabbling, and fresh levies are called for, and fresh taxation and preparations are made as if for instant war. All this is very wearisome and very disheartening, and Englishmen are fairly tired of it. Will the people never have the chief voice in sanctioning or forbidding movements, which to their rulers are mere moves in the game of State, but which to them and their households are matters of life and death? Are kings and diplomats always to make our history for us, and never the peoples, on whom the real burden of all that is done by the State ultimately lies; and who are never taken into the counsels of their rulers until the course is decided upon, and there is nothing left but to pay the cost?

It is because the Continental politics for which Lord BEACONSFIELD would have us care are of this soulless and slavish complexion, that we earnestly desire to be delivered from him and from his works. All his influence in Europe has been thrown into the scale of this factitious, enervating, and debasing diplomatic travestie of earnest and wholesome political life. He is the minister of the courts, the diplomats, and the special correspondents, and he throws a lively and exciting element into their lives. But peoples with him are quietly ignored—our own English people among the rest. They have but to suffer themselves to be moved up and down at the good pleasure of their superiors, and to look on contentedly while all that they hold dear is wasted and destroyed. We desire ardently the advent of the Liberals to power to deliver us from all this. Their Continental policy will be something worthy of the name; a policy in which the peoples shall have some fair share of interest, and in which the arts and the schemings of autocratic statesmen will be, at any rate, limited by considerations drawn from the interests and aspirations of the toiling masses of mankind. Consulting frankly their own Parliament at home, they will lend a new honour and power to those free representative institutions with which is bound up the future progress of European States, and which Lord BEACONSFIELD has done his utmost, almost avowedly, to discredit and to destroy. Give us a Liberal Government, and the English Parliament will again become a power of incalculable importance among the forces which are at work on the true progress of European society; and the strength of the English nation will again be brought to bear on the side of the young, free, progressive peoples who, though now struggling for life, have before them a great future, while the honour and dignity of the Empire will be more than safe in their hands.



## THE ELECTORAL STRUGGLE.

WHATEVER be the result of the great national conflict which is being waged as we write, there is certainly a very marked contrast in the spirit with which it is anticipated by leading men in the opposing parties. It may prove that Liberals have been altogether mistaken in their calculations; that the wonderful manifestations of popular enthusiasm in favour of their principles are a mere delusion; that their canvassing-books have deceived them; and that there is a hidden force of Tory sentiment which will give the Ministry its old majority. But until the event proves this, we certainly cannot believe that the appearances of the last fortnight, which have so deeply impressed even the *Times* newspaper, are nothing better than a mockery. Every possible device has been employed for the purpose of diminishing their significance, and creating the impression that the country is of the mind which the leading journal has so often attributed to it. Continental journals have been summoned as witnesses to the favour with which Lord BEACONSFIELD is regarded in foreign Courts and Cabinets—a very doubtful recommendation to the confidence of the English people. Snippet paragraphs are quoted from Tory journals in the provinces reporting the secession of some local magnate to the Tory ranks. Letters are published one day from the Baroness BURDETT-COURTS, and the next from that most crotchety of noblemen, Earl GREY, in opposition to the Liberal party, in forgetfulness of the fact that it would make a regiment of such letters to counteract the effect of the attitude taken up by Lord DERBY. But, despite all these attempts to keep up a good appearance, the Liberal chiefs have been full of pluck and spirit all through, while the Tory leaders show little of that confidence generally characteristic of the party. Mr. BRIGHT has of late years been disposed to somewhat gloomy views, but in his speeches at the close of the contest there was an unusual ring of hopeful assurance. Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, on the contrary, is an optimist in all that relates to the fortunes of his party; but if he feels very confident of the general issue of the elections, he is singularly successful in concealing. "Gentlemen," he began by saying at Exeter, where his son is a candidate, "when you go to the poll remember, in the first place, to keep up a good heart." This is surely a strange recommendation to come from the head of a "great party," whose representatives have perpetually boasted that the nation was on their side. Such advice addressed to the Liberals could easily have been understood; for, in truth, one of the greatest hindrances to their victory has been the want of faith in their power to conquer. If Tories have fallen into such a state of anxiety that they require to be thus stimulated, and in such a region as North Devon, it would seem as though the Liberalism which is certainly in the air in the North of England has spread to the West. But what has their leader to say which is to put this heart into them? "I have seen many indications that this is a good winning fight we are engaged in. I have seen and I have heard many things, not only here, but from other constituencies throughout the Empire which are highly encouraging, and, above all things, I have seen that which gives me the greatest hope and confidence—I have seen that Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT has declared that 'the Tories are beaten and they know it.' Now, I never hear a prophecy of Sir W. HARCOURT's that I do not know it will turn out false." That may be all very well as a retort on an assailant, who seems to be a thorn in the side of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER; but as the word of a leader to inspire the confidence of his followers just entering into a decisive battle, it strikes us as singularly feeble. After all, Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT's predictions have always been much nearer the truth than Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE's figures. If the political calculations of the party chief are no better than the financial forecasts of his Budget, and if there be as much difference between the promise and the performance in the one case as in the other, the prospects of the Ministry are not bright.

Predictions, however, will be, in a large degree, out of date before this meets the eyes of our readers. The boroughs which will give their verdict before the end of this week will not decide the controversy, but they will help us to understand the tone of feeling which is prevailing. With the reasonable and, indeed, all but certain prospects of success in Scotland and some of the English counties, a comparatively small gain in the English boroughs would secure a Liberal majority. We await the event with perfect equanimity, assured that there is, at all events, a revival of good sense in the nation which will prevent the repetition of the sensations and surprises which have marked the Ministerial policy of the last three years. The contrast is very striking between the tone of Lord

BEACONSFIELD and that of his apologists who claim the suffrages of the nation on the ground that the Ministers have kept the peace of Europe. It is a tacit confession that a continuance of bluster would be dangerous, and that it is necessary to adopt a more pacific tone. Still, Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE recognises a radical difference between the two policies, to which the constituencies would do well to give heed. "There are," he says, "two currents of English thought and feeling. There is a current which is a very strong one, which naturally leads us to desire peace and prosperity, and to abstain from anything which may disturb the progress of our commerce, of our agriculture, and of our industries. And there is another current which induces Englishmen to resent any insult or affront which may be offered, and which leads us to desire to maintain to the full the honour which our ancestors have won for us." This is a very simple mode of putting it, and yet it hardly does justice to either side. Liberals would be as little likely to sit down under any insult or humiliation to their country as their opponents; what they deprecate is the extreme sensitiveness about empty prestige which is a provocative of war.

Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE's interpretation of the British-honour policy would alarm no one. He tries to make out some great difference between himself and Mr. GLADSTONE, whom he assails in a manner very unworthy of himself; but those who know the men, or who read their speeches, must feel that should any necessity for the assertion of English influence arise, the attitude of Mr. GLADSTONE would be quite as decided as that of Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE. Should the Tory party ever again return to such a state of "sweet unreasonableness" that the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER could safely be regarded as the exponent of its views, there would be no reason to fear any dangerous outburst of English Chauvinism. But at present Lord BEACONSFIELD is the Cabinet, and, if he can obtain a majority, will be Grand Vizier; and as he pipes, Sir STAFFORD will have to dance in the future as he has done in the past. With another Parliament like the last there would be nothing before us but constant unrest abroad, and at home financial muddle, increasing deficits in the Exchequer, augmented taxation, so managed as to press chiefly upon the middle classes, some plan of military conscription (perhaps masked under another name) for the purpose of maintaining "ascendancy in the councils of Europe," with possibly a few Permissive Bills, such as the Agricultural Holdings Act, schemes for getting rid of abuses as successful as that by which, as all the world knows, Ritualism has been "put down" by the PREMIER, and measures of social improvement as sagacious and as sound in economic principles as that remarkable work of Mr. CROSS's intellect, the Water Bill.

But we anticipate no such misfortune. There are many signs that the country is tired of the continued vauntings and self-glorification in which the Ministry have been indulged, and that they themselves are conscious that they often prophesy to deaf ears. The abuse of Mr. GLADSTONE, the appeal to Continental opinion, the trust in the publicans, have all been carried too far, and have produced reaction. There are numbers of rational Conservatives disgusted with Mr. CROSS and the SOLICITOR GENERAL who, having circulated a falsehood instead of retracting it, set to work to abuse Mr. GLADSTONE for denying it, and tries to prove that it might have been true and ought to have been true. Depend upon it, Lord DERBY, Lord NEWBOROUGH, and Lord CLINTON are not the only Conservatives who have changed sides, and the secret distrust of the PREMIER and his designs will produce more abstentions than actual conversions. We are rejoiced to see so many clergymen publicly separating themselves from the Tory party, and refusing to have any complicity either with high-handed aggression abroad, or an alliance with publicans at home. In the metropolis we have quite a goodly band with men like Dr. ABBOTT, Dr. LLEWELLYN DAVIES, the GLYNES, Mr. AUBREY PRICE, Mr. OAKLEY, and Mr. FREEMANTLE at their head. They are men who place the great interests of morality and Christianity before those of their Church. They and the Nonconformists who have refused to consider any point in this controversy, except the fundamental principles of Christian ethics, are on the same platform. Happy would it have been for the cause of Christian truth, if all teachers of Christianity had been unanimous in their protest against the policy of injustice by which the real honour of the country has been tarnished! But it is satisfactory to know that the Nonconformist pulpit, in all its sections, has, with very rare exceptions, spoken in one sense, while it is a long time since so many of the Established clergy have boldly cast all questions of sect or party to the winds, and ranged themselves on the side of truth and righteousness. Their influence must tell on the popular mind, and is one of

innumerable facts which justify us, to quote the language of Mr. FORSTER, in watching the conflict with intense interest, but without any anxiety.

## THE FARMERS &amp; THE COUNTY CONTESTS.

THE exceptional excitement of the present election is in no respect more strikingly apparent than in the vigour with which most county seats are being contested. Never since the passing of the Reform Bill have there been contests in so many county divisions, and never since the great Free Trade fight has there been so much strong feeling manifested. This stirring among the comparatively dry bones of county politics has been occasioned mainly by the pressure of agricultural depression and the agitation of the Farmers' Alliance. That this is the case must be obvious to anyone who has taken the trouble to glance through many of the published addresses and platform speeches of county candidates, and especially those of new candidates of divisions that have not lately known the excitement of a contested election. In many instances these gentlemen are strangers to the constituencies they are courting, and they rest their claims to a favourable reception mainly on their desire to redress agricultural grievances, which have lately acquired such unprecedented prominence; while a few of them are members of the Farmers' Alliance, and still more have adopted its programme of objects more or less completely, and have been induced to come forward by the excitement which that active association has created amongst the farmers.

In East Cheshire Mr. G. W. LATHAM, a prominent member of the Alliance, is fighting a hopeful battle with a colleague who agrees with him completely on questions of agricultural reform. In East Suffolk Mr. EVERETT, another member of the association, and a farmer, was brought forward at one of its meetings, and the same statement applies to Mr. MAY, who is contesting West Kent, as well as Mr. BOMPAS, Q.C., who has put the Alliance programme into his address. In East Essex Mr. CHARLES PAGE WOOD's candidature—at one time thought to be a forlorn hope—received such a fillip from the enthusiasm with which the Alliance was received in the county, that his supporters are now confident of his success. In East Cornwall an association of tenant farmers was formed for the purpose of securing at least one candidate who would represent them faithfully, and they adopted the principal portion of the Alliance programme by way of a shibboleth with which to test the fitness of candidates for their votes. The result, in the first instance, was that the Liberal and Conservative candidates—one of each party only—who were expected to have a quiet walk over, adopted their "platform." The concession, however, was given too tardily, and Mr. BORLASE, a member of the Alliance, has come forward as the colleague of the Hon. T. C. AGAR-ROBARTS, another member, and is opposed to Mr. DIGBY COLLINS, who, with Mr. TREMAYNE, fights the Conservative battle. In this case we have the peculiar presentment of four candidates bidding equally liberally for farmers' votes, but with this difference—that while the two Liberals have long been in favour of the agricultural reforms which all profess to favour, their opponents are instances of rapid conversion which is not a little suspicious. In Mid and East Kent the Liberal candidates, who have an unexpectedly good chance of success, are avowedly fighting as agricultural reformers of an advanced type, with the support of the Farmers' Alliance. We might mention several other similar cases; but the above will suffice as illustrations of the nature of the conflict in a large proportion of contested county elections. Of course the foreign policy of the late Government is a prominent topic in the addresses and platform speeches of county as well as borough candidates; but in constituencies mainly, or largely, consisting of farmers this is not the chief subject of interest. How to restore the prosperity of British agriculture is acknowledged to be the most important problem for solution in the rural districts, not only in the interest of landowners, farmers, and labourers, but also in that of the other county voters, most of whom are dependent upon agricultural prosperity for their living. All this is very satisfactory, as there are few questions of home politics so important for the nation at large as those which relate to the most advantageous condition of land ownership and cultivation.

In relation to the balance of parties, the result of the General Election will almost certainly show a very satisfactory advance of enlightened opinion in the counties. The fast alliance between the farmers and the Conservative party has been a mistake of which the latter have reaped all the advantages. There is no fair and reasonable demand made by farmers which is not more likely to be granted by Liberals than by Conservatives. In old times the county freeholders were the most



faithful supporters of the Liberal party, and it was not till the disturbing fight between Protection and Free Trade was begun that the unnatural alliance between farmers and Tories was consummated. Now that Protection is dead and buried beyond all hope of resurrection, and that in spite of the feeble efforts of the advocates of Reciprocity, there is no reason for the continuance of the allegiance of farmers to the so-called "farmers' friends," from whom nothing but neglect and betrayal have been obtained by their dupes. The bottom of this humbug—to use an expressive though inelegant American phrase—is beginning to drop out, and already large numbers of farmers, who have voted on the Conservative side all their lives, have declared their intention of making a salutary change.

That this should be the case is not at all surprising; for the Conservative party have carried their trust in the stupidity of their late deluded clients a little too far, and have overshot the mark. No feature of the election is more striking than the fact that, as a rule, both the leaders and the rank and file of the Conservative party have, to a great extent, ignored the demands of farmers in their election manifestoes and addresses, while their opponents have as generally paid attention to them. It is true that many Conservative candidates, frightened at the earnestness shown in favour of agricultural reform by the farmers, have since endeavoured to make up for the deficiency in their addresses by liberal, though generally vague, promises; but such sudden conversions are recognised as election ruses, and are discounted accordingly. The facts that the Conservatives, during six years of power, have done nothing effectual for the redress of farmers' grievances, and that at the termination of that period they had the effrontery to appeal to the country without any definite promises for the relief of those whose votes were mainly the stepping-stones of their elevation, are too damning for any subsequent glossing over. The scales are falling from the farmers' eyes, and they begin to see clearly that their coalition with what is really the landlords' party is an unnatural one, and one from which they have reaped no substantial benefit.

It is idle to say the interests of landlords and tenants are identical. Whether they are so or not, the fact remains that their aims are antagonistic. What tenants demand, landlords resist as long as they can. Tenants asked for compensation for their unexhausted improvements. The Conservative leaders, in spite of much unwillingness amongst their followers, pretended to give it; but they left a loop-hole of escape for the landowners, which was resorted to in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred, and the Agricultural Holdings Act stands forth as the greatest legislative sham of modern times. The Reform of the Game Laws and the Abolition of Distress and Hypothec have similarly been opposed by landlords, though asked for by tenants. On these and other questions of agricultural reform it is the Liberals who have been the real farmers' friends; and if ever the cultivators of the soil are to be freed from the multiform disadvantages under which they have so long laboured, it will be at the hands of the Liberals. This conviction has dawned upon the minds of agricultural voters, and we venture to predict that more Liberals will be returned for the counties at the election just about to be decided than have been elected in these constituencies since the Reform Bill was passed.

#### THE FIRST VICTORIES—A BRIGHT EXAMPLE.

A NETT gain of sixteen seats has, we rejoice to say, marked the first day's contests—the Liberals having won twenty-four, and the Conservatives nine seats at yesterday's polls. The new Parliament thus far consists of seventy-nine Liberals, fifty-three Conservatives, and one Home Ruler. The City of London is, so far as we know, the only constituency where a poll has been taken, for which the declaration has been deferred. Happily the result in this case, whatever it be, will, in the face of the triumphs we record, produce little moral effect. Yesterday's successes are, from every point of view, of great significance. The Liberals gain two seats each for Cambridge and Colchester, and one each for Andover, Bedford, Bolton, Buckingham, Cheltenham, Clitheroe, Coventry, Exeter, Gloucester, Grantham, Kidderminster, Lincoln, Norwich, Oldham, Plymouth, Winchester, Truro, Wallingford, Stamford, Evesham, and Berwick. The Conservatives have been successful in Maidstone, where they have won both seats, and in Barnstaple, Horsham, Leominster, Poole, Rochester, Taunton, and Westbury.

The metropolis has thus far done as well as might be reasonably expected, though not so well as could have been wished. Sanguine people hoped that, with two such excellent candidates as Mr. John

Morley and Sir A. Hobhouse, the Liberals might have won at least one seat in Westminster, the great metropolitan Tory stronghold. But though the Liberal fight was a gallant one, it did not prevail against the great personal influence of the First Lord of the Admiralty, and the disciplined organisation he has been able to maintain in the City of Westminster. It is a remarkable and illustrative fact that Sir C. Russell polled almost as many votes as Mr. W. H. Smith—a still more striking fact that the Liberal candidates for Westminster polled not far short of double the votes given by the party in 1874. On the other hand, the contest at Hackney is a virtual triumph. How groundless were the fears that one of the seats was in danger is shown by the numbers at the declaration of the poll. Mr. Holms, who stands second, is more than 6,000 above his Conservative opponent, Mr. Bartley, while Mr. Fawcett (who received 18,366 votes) has polled about 8,000 more than in 1874.

The Liberal gains of yesterday, regarded simply as the transfer of votes, are abundantly gratifying. They are fairly spread over England, and are among the largest constituencies in which anything was to be won. Both seats have been won in Cambridge and Colchester. In the University town the defeat of Mr. Marten will deprive that hon. gentleman of the chance of smuggling further obnoxious measures through Parliament. For the Essex borough—a county noted in 1874 for its Conservatism—Mr. Willis, Q.C., a staunch Nonconformist, is returned. In Coventry the second seat has fallen to the lot of Mr. W. H. Wills, of Bristol, also a well-known Nonconformist. For Exeter a Liberal heads the poll, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer's son comes in second. We rejoice that the Hon. E. Lyulph Stanley, who is returned for Oldham, will be able to serve the Liberal cause in Parliament as he has done outside. Norwich has returned Mr. Tillett along with Mr. J. J. Colman to promote the cause of civil and religious freedom, and Mr. C. S. Roundell as member for Grantham, will be able to take the same course. The chances of the poll, we are sorry to say, have excluded Sir John Lubbock and Sir S. Waterlow from the new Parliament, and have also (happily) defeated Mr. Albert Grant's attempt to recover the seat for Kidderminster.

But it is not merely in actual gains that the Liberals have been successful. They have defeated the aggressions of their opponents along the whole line. First and foremost is Birmingham, where they have carried the three seats, with a majority of about 4,000 to spare. It has been much the same at Burnley, Halifax, Rochdale, Stockport, Sunderland, Wolverhampton, where the Liberal majorities have ranged from 600 to 6,000. These do not alter the actual results, but they indicate in the most striking manner the set of public opinion in the large constituencies outside of London, where the polls have been greater than were ever before known.

These splendid examples will, we are sanguine to believe, be irresistible not only at to-day's polls, but in the remaining borough elections, and next week, when the counties will give their verdict. We trust one of the first effects of the Liberal victories in the boroughs will be to ensure a triumph in Middlesex. Under their influence Mr. Herbert Gladstone ought to be carried in at the head of the poll for the metropolitan county on Saturday. At all events, there is every reason to hope that the Beaconsfield imposture is in a fair way of being exploded. We cannot doubt that yesterday's polls are an omen of what is coming—a sign of that decisive change of national opinion which will sweep away the present Administration, and replace it by a Government strong in the support of the people, and of a decisive majority in the new Parliament.

The news from Afghanistan, though thrown into the shade by the excitement of the General Election, gives increased cause for anxiety. A friendly observer thus sums up the situation:—

In Cabul our political officers are endeavouring to open negotiations with the chiefs of Ghuznee Wardak and Kohistan, who show some inclination to come to terms. Between Cabul and Peshawur, on what is known as the Khyber line, some fighting has taken place, and the tribes betray a warlike feeling. From the Kuram no news of importance comes. In the neighbourhood of Quetta the Kakar Beloochees seem disturbed, but this appears to be purely local, for when we reach Candahar we find all quiet and peaceful. Mahomed Jan's hold on Ghuznee has been weakened by the Hazaras. Looking beyond the immediate sphere of our own operations, we find the appearance of Abdurrahman Khan has created disquietude not only in his own province of Balkh, but also in Herat. What his views are no one knows. That he still considers himself *de jure* ruler of Afghanistan there can be no doubt, and it is equally certain that he is destined to play an important part in the future of the kingdom.

It is probable that in this pretender we shall find a new and inflexible enemy, who will refuse to acquiesce in the schemes discussed in Cabul for a partition of Afghanistan, or to accept without resistance the terms which General ROBERTS may seek to impose on him.

Almost the only topic of European importance is the

desperate financial position of the Porte—so desperate that the GRAND VIZIER has actually proposed to curtail the outrageous expenditure of the SULTAN himself, and has thereby risked his own dismissal. When matters have come to such a pass the beginning of the end is in sight. At this juncture ABDUL HAMID must have read, with no little disquietude, the strong language used in reference to Turkish misrule and extravagance by the Marquis of HARTINGTON.

The Tories, who are gloating over the difficulties they think must ensue if the Liberals should be called to power, would be wise to ponder the remarks of Mr. W. E. FORSTER at Bradford a few days ago. The right hon. gentleman said that in such an event there were three possible men who might be Prime Minister—Lord HARTINGTON, Lord GRANVILLE, or Mr. GLADSTONE. If Mr. GLADSTONE chose to assert his claims, neither Lord GRANVILLE, Lord HARTINGTON, nor any other man would think of questioning them. All talk about any difficulty as to who should be Prime Minister was based upon perfectly unfounded suppositions that there was any degree of jealousy whatever between them. Probably, it will not be long before the accuracy of Mr. FORSTER's statement will be tested. Mr. GLADSTONE declared yesterday that he was the follower, not the chief, of his Liberal colleagues.

The remarks in our article on the county elections may be usefully supplemented by a few facts. These contests will commence as early as Saturday—Middlesex, for obvious reasons, being placed in the van—and they will be going on all next week. The list we have given elsewhere of contested divisions, in juxtaposition with the polls of 1874, will enable our readers to watch the progress of the polls with added interest. At the time of the dissolution 154 county seats were filled by supporters of the Government and 33 by their opponents. According to ordinary calculation the Tories had little to gain and might lose much in the rural districts by an appeal to the country. In the counties of England and Wales there are, we believe, twelve seats held by Liberals, and fifty-eight held by Conservatives which will not be disturbed—in many of these cases the representation being divided. The following seats, lately held by Liberals, will be contested by Tories—viz., Cumberland, E. (2), Merionethshire (1), Radnorshire (1), West Riding, N. D. (2)—making six in all. The list of county seats hitherto held by the Conservatives is very formidable, as the following table will show:—

Bedfordshire.....	1	Lincoln, N.....	1
Berkshire.....	1	Middlesex.....	1
Bucks.....	1	Monmouth.....	2
Cardiganshire.....	1	Montgomery.....	1
Carnarvonshire.....	1	Norfolk, S.....	1
Cheshire, Mid.....	2	" W.....	1
Cornwall, E.....	1	Northampton, N.....	1
Derbyshire, N.....	1	Northumberland, N.....	1
Durham, N.....	1	" S.....	1
Essex, E.....	1	Nottingham, N.....	2
" S.....	2	Somerset, W.....	1
Gloucester, W.....	1	Stafford, N.....	2
Herefordshire.....	1	" W.....	2
Huntingdon.....	1	Suffolk, E.....	1
Kent, E.....	1	Surrey, E.....	2
" Mid.....	2	" Mid.....	2
" W.....	1	Sussex, E.....	2
Lancashire, N.....	1	Westmoreland.....	1
" N E.....	2	Wiltshire, N.....	1
" S E.....	2	Worcester, E.....	2
" S W.....	2	" W.....	1
Leicester, N.....	1	Yorkshire, E R.....	1
" S.....	2	" W R (E D).....	2
		" (S D).....	2

We have here a total of sixty-four seats lately held by the Conservatives, which are challenged by their opponents, who may be expected to carry from ten to fifteen of them—perhaps many more. The interest of the General Election will, therefore, by no means cease with the borough contests.

#### THE POLLS.—YESTERDAY.

The following were the results of yesterday's polls so far as is known this morning (Thursday) as we go to press. In the case of the City of London it will be observed the declaration of the poll has been delayed to this day.

ABINGDON (1).		BODMIN (1).	
Clarke, L.....	428	Levison-Gower (L)...	418
Gibbs, C.....	386	Farquharson, L.....	375
ANDOVER (1).		BUCKINGHAM (1).	
Buxton, L.....	405	Verney, L.....	528
Wellesley, C.....	364	Hubbard, C.....	520
BARNBURY (1).		BURNLEY (1).	
B. Samuelson, L.....	1,018	Rylands, L.....	3,943
Bowles, C.....	585	Lord Talbot, C.....	3,217
BARNSTAPLE (2).		BIRMINGHAM (3).	
Carden, C.....	856	Muntz, L.....	22,079
Lymington, L.....	811	Bright, L.....	22,069
Grenfell, L.....	720	Chamberlain, L.....	19,544
BEDFORD (2).		Burnaby, C.....	15,735
Whitbread, L.....	1,470	G. Calthorpe, C.....	14,208
Magniac, L.....	1,333	CALNE (1).	
Turner, C.....	1,053	Lord Fitzmaurice, L.....	518
BERWICK (2).		Burke, C.....	116
Marjoribanks, L.....	687	CAMBRIDGE (2).	
Strutt, L.....	614	Fowler, L.....	2,386
Macdonald, C.....	552	Shield, L.....	2,326
Home, C.....	457	Marten, C.....	2,003
BREWDLLEY (1).		Smollett, C.....	1,902
Harrison, L.....	598	CHATHAM (1).	
Webster, C.....	530	Gorst, C.....	2,499
BOLTON (2).		Cart Glyn, L.....	2,398
J. K. Cross, L.....	6,965	CHELTEHAM (1).	
Thomasson, L.....	6,673	Baron de Ferrières, L.....	2,318
Rushton, C.....	6,509	Agg-Gardner, C.....	2,297
Bridgeman, C.....	6,415	CHIPPENHAM (1).	
BLACKBURN (2).		Goldney, C.....	478
Briggs, L.....	6,349	Butler, L.....	455
Coddington, C.....	6,207	CLITHKEOE (1).	
Molesworth, L.....	6,088	Foot, L.....	1,078
Thwaites, C.....	5,760	Assheton, C.....	832



COLCHESTER (2).		NORWICH (2).	
Causton, L.	1,738	Colman, L.	6,549
Willis, L.	1,650	Tillett, L.	6,512
Learmonth, C.	1,648	Harben, C.	5,242
Jeune, C.	1,529	Mainwaring, C.	5,032
COVENTRY (2).		OLDHAM (2).	
Jackson, L.	4,184	Hibbert, L.	10,630
W. H. Wills, L.	4,106	E. L. Stanley, L.	10,409
Eaton, C.	4,008	Spinks, C.	8,982
Kekewich, C.	3,715	Whitehead, C.	8,593
DEVIZES (1).		PETERBOROUGH (2).	
Sir Thomas Bateson (C)	446	J. W. Fitzwilliam, L.	1,615
Sir Thompson (L)	388	Whalley, L.	1,257
DEVONPORT (2).		Tennant, C.	987
Puleston, C.	1,753	Hankey, L.	841
Price, C.	1,746	PLYMOUTH (2).	
Lewis, L.	1,509	Bates, C.	2,432
Craig-Sellar, L.	1,476	MacIver, L.	2,406
DUDLEY (1).		Young, L.	2,402
Sheridan, L.	6,948	Lloyd, C.	2,384
Waterman, C.	4,163	POOLE (1).	
EVESHAM (1).		Schreiber, C.	854
Ratcliff, L.	382	Waring, L.	848
Borthwick, C.	373	PRESTON (2).	
EXETER (2).		Herron, C.	6,329
Johnson, L.	3,038	Holker, C.	5,641
Northcote, C.	2,690	Bahr, L.	5,355
Mills, C.	2,545	RICHMOND, YORKS (1).	
EYE (1).		Dundas, L.	447
Bartlett, C.	540	King, C.	143
Easton, L.	478	RIPON (1).	
FALMOUTH (2).		Goschen, L.	591
Jenkins (L)	1,176	Darwin, C.	362
Brett (L)	1,071	ROCHESTER (2).	
Vogel (C)	882	Otway, L.	1,497
Mayne (C)	765	Leigh, C.	1,393
GLOUCESTER (2).		Seton-Kerr, C.	1,312
Robinson, L.	2,797	Goldsmid, L.	1,294
Monk, L.	2,680	ROCHDALE (1).	
Wait, C.	2,304	Potter, L.	5,641
Ockers, C.	1,898	Gamble, C.	3,716
GREAT GRIMSBY (1).		STAMFORD (1).	
Henage, L.	3,054	Bussard, L.	601
Hutton, C.	2,002	Hay, C.	551
GRANTHAM (2).		STOCKPORT (2).	
Mellor, L.	1,329	Hopwood, L.	4,663
Roundell, L.	1,304	Pennington, L.	4,534
Cust, C.	915	Fernley, C.	4,214
Marley, C.	835	Bell, C.	4,109
GUILDFORD (1).		SUNDERLAND (2).	
Onslow, C.	705	Gourley, L.	7,645
Kemp, L.	571	Havelock, L.	6,995
HACKNEY (2).		Brooke, C.	4,254
Fawcett, L.	18,366	TAUNTON (2).	
Holms, L.	16,997	Palliser, C.	1,084
Bartley, C.	10,322	James, L.	1,000
HALIFAX (2).		Cargill, C.	971
Stansfeld, L.	6,368	Eykyn, L.	968
Hutchinson, L.	6,340	TAURO (2).	
Barber, C.	3,452	McGarel Hogg, C.	781
HORSHAM (1).		Brydges-Williams, L.	754
Fletcher, C.	605	Chester, C.	181
Brown, L.	504	TEWKESBURY (1).	
KIDDERMINSTER (1).		Price, L.	350
Brinton, L.	1,795	Fowler, C.	341
Grant, C.	1,472	WALLINGFORD (1).	
LAUNCESTON (1).		Wren, L.	582
Giffard, C.	439	Wells, C.	541
Collier, L.	334	WARWICK (2).	
LEOMINSTER (1).		Peel, L.	981
Rankin, C.	457	Repton, C.	768
Blake, L.	354	Godson, C.	676
LICHFIELD (1).		WESTBURY (1).	
Dyott, C.	553	Phipps, C.	559
Swinburne, L.	537	Laverton, L.	505
LINCOLN (2).		WESTMINSTER (2).	
Seely, L.	3,041	W. H. Smith, C.	9,093
Palmer, L.	3,128	Russell, C.	8,930
Chaplin, C.	2,190	John Morley, L.	6,564
LONDON UNIVERSITY (1).		Hobhouse, L.	6,443
(First day's poll)		WINCHESTER (2).	
Remains open till Monday.)		Lord Baring, L.	979
Lowe, L.	702	Moss, C.	808
Charles, C.	349	Simonds, C.	773
MAIDSTONE (2).		WINDSOR (1).	
Ross, C.	1,965	Gardner, C.	995
Aylmer, C.	1,832	Van de Weyer, L.	824
Lubbock, L.	1,725	WOLVERHAMPTON (2).	
Waterlow, L.	1,624	Villiers, L.	12,197
		Fowler, L.	11,606
		Hickman, C.	5,874

## THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

The following members have been returned to the House of Commons:—

		L. C.
Abingdon	Mr. J. C. Clarke	1
Andover	Mr. F. W. Buxton	1
Banbury	Mr. Bernhard Samuelson	1
Barnstaple	Viscount Lynton	1
Bedford	Sir R. W. Carden	1
Bedford	Mr. S. Whitbread	1
Berwick	Mr. Charles Magniac	1
Berwick	Sir D. E. Marjoribanks	1
Bewdley	Hon. Henry Strutt	1
Birmingham	Mr. Charles Harrison	1
Birmingham	Right Hon. John Bright	1
Birmingham	Mr. B. H. Muntz	1
Birmingham	Mr. Joseph Chamberlain	1
Blackburn	Mr. W. L. Briggs	1
Blackburn	Mr. W. Coddington	1
Bodmin	Hon. E. F. Leveson-Gower	1
Bolton	Mr. J. K. Cross	1
Bolton	Mr. Thomasson	1
Buckingham	Sir Harry Verney	1
Burnley	Mr. Peter Rylands	1
Bury (Lancashire)	Mr. R. N. Phillips	1
Calne	Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice	1
Cambridge	Mr. William Fowler	1
Cambridge	Mr. H. Shield	1
Cambridgeshire	Rt. Hon. H. B. W. Brand	1
Cambridgeshire	Mr. Hunter Rodwell	1
Cambridgeshire	Mr. Edward Hicks	1

Carnarvon Boroughs	Mr. W. Bulkeley Hughes	1
Chatham	Mr. John Eldon Gorst	1
Cheltenham	Baron de Ferrières	1
Chippenham	Mr. Goldney	1
Cirencester	Mr. T. W. C. Master	1
Clitheroe	Mr. Fort	1
Colchester	Mr. Causton	1
Colchester	Mr. Willis, Q.C.	1
Colchester	Sir H. Jackson	1
Colchester	Mr. W. H. Wills	1
Colchester	Mr. T. W. Evans	1
Colchester	Mr. Henry Wilmot	1
Colchester	Sir Thomas Bateson	1
Colchester	Mr. Puleston	1
Colchester	Captain Price	1
Colchester	Mr. H. B. Sheridan	1
Colchester	Mr. Daniel R. Ratcliff	1
Colchester	Mr. Johnson	1
Colchester	Mr. S. Northcote	1
Colchester	Mr. Bartlett	1
Colchester	Mr. D. J. Jenkins	1
Colchester	Mr. E. B. Brett	1
Colchester	Mr. H. B. Samuelson	1
Colchester	Mr. Robinson	1
Colchester	Mr. C. J. Monk	1
Colchester	Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach	1
Colchester	Mr. Reginald Yorke	1
Colchester	Mr. John W. Mellor	1
Colchester	Mr. C. S. Roundell	1
Colchester	Mr. Henage	1
Colchester	Mr. Denzil Onslow	1
Colchester	Mr. Henry Fawcett	1
Colchester	Mr. John Holms	1
Colchester	Right Hon. J. Stansfeld	1
Colchester	Mr. J. D. Hutchinson	1
Colchester	Rt. Hon. G. Slater-Booth	1
Colchester	Mr. W. W. Beach	1
Colchester	Sir Henry Fletcher	1
Colchester	Hon. H. F. Cowper	1
Colchester	Mr. Abel Smith	1
Colchester	Mr. Thomas Halsey	1
Colchester	Visc. Hinchinbrook	1
Colchester	Sir Edward W. Watkin	1
Colchester	Mr. Brinton	1
Colchester	Sir Harding Giffard	1
Colchester	Mr. Rankine	1
Colchester	Colonel Dyott	1
Colchester	Mr. C. Seely	1
Colchester	Mr. Hinde Palmer	1
Colchester	Right Hon. Visc. Sandon	1
Colchester	Mr. Edward Whitley	1
Colchester	Lord Ramsay	1
Colchester	Mr. Ross	1
Colchester	Mr. Aylmer	1
Colchester	Mr. Thomas Burt	1
Colchester	Mr. J. J. Colman	1
Colchester	Mr. J. H. Tillett	1
Colchester	Mr. J. T. Hibbert	1
Colchester	Hon. Lyulph Stanley	1
Colchester	Right Hon. J. R. Mowbray	1
Colchester	Mr. J. G. Talbot	1
Colchester	Mr. W. Cartwright	1
Colchester	Colonel North	1
Colchester	Colonel E. W. Harcourt	1
Colchester	Hon. J. W. Fitzwilliam	1
Colchester	Captain Whalley	1
Colchester	Mr. Edward Bates	1
Colchester	Mr. P. S. MacIver	1
Colchester	Mr. Schrieber	1
Colchester	Mr. Edward Hermon	1
Colchester	Sir John Holker	1
Colchester	Hon. J. C. Dundas	1
Colchester	Right Hon. G. J. Goschen	1
Colchester	Mr. Thomas B. Potter	1
Colchester	Mr. Arthur Otway	1
Colchester	Mr. Roger Leigh	1
Colchester	Right Hon. E. H. Knatchbull-Hugessen	1
Colchester	Mr. H. A. Brassey	1
Colchester	Viscount Newport	1
Colchester	Mr. Stanley Leighton	1
Colchester	Mr. Sussard	1
Colchester	Mr. Pennington	1
Colchester	Mr. Hopwood	1
Colchester	Mr. Thomas Thornhill	1
Colchester	Mr. Biddell	1
Colchester	Colonel E. T. Gourley	1
Colchester	Sir H. Havelock	1
Colchester	Mr. Dillwyn	1
Colchester	Lord Arthur Russell	1
Colchester	Captain Price	1
Colchester	Sir J. McGarel-Hogg	1
Colchester	Mr. E. W. Brydges Willyams	1
Colchester	Mr. Walter Wren	1
Colchester	Sir Charles Foster	1
Colchester	Mr. A. W. Peel	1
Colchester	Mr. G. W. Repton	1
Colchester	Mr. C. N. Newdegate	1
Colchester	Mr. Bromley Davenport	1
Colchester	Mr. A. H. Brown	1
Colchester	Mr. C. T. W. Forester	1
Colchester	Mr. Phipps	1
Colchester	Right Hon. W. H. Smith	1
Colchester	Sir Charles Russell	1
Colchester	Lord Henry Thynne	1
Colchester	Viscount Folkestone	1
Colchester	Viscount Baring	1
Colchester	Mr. Richard Moss	1
Colchester	Col. Richardson-Gardner	1
Colchester	Right Hon. C. P. Villiers	1
Colchester	Mr. Fowler	1
Colchester	Hon. W. H. Carington	1
SCOTLAND.		
Inverness Burghs	Mr. C. F. Mackintosh	1
Montrose Burghs	Right Hon. W. E. Baxter	1
Paisley	Mr. W. Holms	1
IRELAND.		
Armagh City	Captain Beresford	1
Drogheda	Mr. B. Whitworth	1
Dublin University	Right Hon. E. Gibson	1
Dublin University	Right Hon. David Plunket	1
Dublin University	Right Hon. Col. Taylor	1
Dublin University	Mr. Ion Trant Hamilton	1
Dublin University	Sir Richard Wallace	1

## ENGLISH AND WELSH COUNTIES.

[In the following list we give the names of the candidates who have come forward for the counties of England and Wales, and on the left-hand side the results, polls and otherwise, of the General Election of 1874 in these several constituencies, for the sake of comparison. The figures in parentheses show the number of members returned for each division, and are followed by the number of registered electors. Probably there are a few inaccuracies, as new Liberal candidates are coming forward almost daily. The list is analysed elsewhere.]

1874—Results.	1880—Candidates.
ANGLESSEA (1), 3,147 electors.	
Davies, L.	1,631 Mr. E. Davies, L.
Bulkeley, C.	793 Captain Rayner, C.
BRIDFORDSHIRE (2), 7,077.	
No contest.	Marquis of Tavistock, L.
	Sir R. Gilpin, C.
	Mr. J. Howard, L.
BERKSHIRE (3), 7,868.	
No contest.	Mr. Walter, L.
1876 (Benyon resigned.)	Col. Lloyd Lindsay, C.
Wroughton, C.	3,454 Mr. Wroughton, C.
Griffith, C.	1,149 Mr. Rogers, L.
BRACKNOCKSHIRE (1), 4,402.	
Morgan, C.	1,594 Mr. W. F. Maitland, L.
Maitland, L.	1,036 Hon. A. Morgan, C.
1875 (Hon. C. G. Morgan became Lord Tredegar.)	
Maitland, L.	1,703
Gwyn, C.	1,600
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE (3), 8,065.	
Disraeli, C.	3,004 Mr. W. G. Lambert, L.
Harvey, C.	2,902 Mr. Fremantle, C.
Lambert, L.	1,720 Hon. R. Carington, L.
Talley L.C.	151 Mr. F. Charsley, C.
1876 (Disraeli created Lord Beaconsfield.)	
Fremantle, C.	2,725
Carington, L.	2,539
CAMBRIDGESHIRE (3), 10,015.	
No contest.	Right Hon. H. B. Brand, L.
1874 (Death of Mr. Eger-	(the Speaker).
Rodwell, C. (No contest.)	Mr. Hunter Rodwell, C.
	Mr. E. Hicks, C.
CARDIGANSHIRE (1), 4,768.	
Lloyd, C.	1,850 Mr. T. E. Lloyd, C.
Richards, L.	1,605 Mr. L. P. Pugh, L.
CARMARTHENSHIRE (2), 8,172.	
Emlyn, C.	3,389 Viscount Emlyn, C.
Jones, C.	3,261 Mr. J. Jones, C.
Powell, L.	2,799 Mr. H. H. Powell, L.
Sartoris, L.	2,331
CARNARVONSHIRE (1), 6,387.	
Douglas-Pennant, C.	2,750 Hon. J. S. Douglas-Pennant, C.
Parry, L.	2,318 Mr. Watkin Williams, L.
CHESHIRE, EAST (2), 6,710.	
No contest.	Mr. W. J. Legh, C.
	Mr. W. C. Brooks, C.
CHESHIRE, MID (2), 8,644.	
No contest.	Hon. W. Egerton, C.
1876 (Death of Mr. Eger-	Mr. P. E. Warburton, C.
ton-Leigh.)	Mr. G. W. Latham, L.
Egerton-Warburton (C), no	Mr. V. Armitage, L.
contest.	
CHESHIRE, WEST (2), 10,683.	
No contest.	Sir P. de M. G. Egerton, C.
	Hon. W. F. Tollemache, C.
CORNWALL, EAST (2), 9,167.	
Rashleigh, L.	3,396 Mr. Tremayne, C.
Tremayne, C.	3,276 Hon. T. C. Agar-Robartes, L.
P. Carew, C.	3,099
Kelly, L.	2,976
CORNWALL, WEST (2), 6,972.	
No contest.	Sir John St. Aubyn, L.
	Mr. A. H. Vivian, L.
CUMBERLAND, EAST (2), 7,708.	
Howard, L.	2,948 Hon. C. W. G. Howard, L.
Hodgson, L.	2,629 Mr. E. S. Howard, L.
Musgrave, C.	2,622 Sir E. Musgrave, C.
1876 (Death of Mr. Hodgson.)	
Howard, E. S., L.	2,939
Musgrave, C.	2,783
CUMBERLAND, WEST (2), 7,370.	
Wyndham, C.	2,532 Hon. Percy Wyndham, C.
Muncaster, C.	2,520 Lord Muncaster, C.
Dykes, L.	1,786 Mr. D. Ainsworth, L.
Ainsworth, L.	1,771
DENBIGHSHIRE (2), 7,409.	
No contest.	Sir W. W. Wynn, C.
	Mr. A. Morgan, L.
DERBYSHIRE, EAST (2), 5,957.	
Egerton, L.	2,206 Hon. F. Egerton, L.
Arkwright, C.	2,116 Mr. F. Arkwright, C.
Fowler, C.	2,067 Mr. W. C. Turbutt, C.
Strutt, L.	2,017
DERBYSHIRE, NORTH (2), 6,836.	
No contest.	Mr. A. P. Arkwright, C.
	Lord E. Cavendish, L.
	Mr. C. F. Cheetham, L.
	Capt. Sidebottom, C.
DERBYSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 8,824.	
Wilmot, C.	3,934 Sir H. Wilmot, C.
Evans, L.	3,773 Mr. T. W. Evans, L.
Smith, C.	3,572
DEVON, EAST (2), 10,231.	
No contest.	Sir J. H. Kennaway, C.
	Lieut.-Col. Walrond, C.
DEVON, NORTH (2), 9,408.	
No contest.	Sir Stafford Northcote, C.
	Sir Thomas Acland, L.
DEVON, SOUTH (2), 7,722.	
No contest.	Sir Massey Lopes, C.
	Mr. J. Carpenter-Garnier, C.
DURHAM, NORTH (2), 13,079.	
Bell, L.	4,364 Mr. C. M. Palmer, L



<b>DURHAM, SOUTH (2), 11,601.</b>		<b>MONMOUTHSHIRE (2), 7,604.</b>		<b>SUSSEX, EAST (2), 10,098.</b>	
Pease, L.....	4,792	Mr. J. W. Pease, L	No contest.	Hon. F. C. Morgan, C	Mr. G. B. Gregory, C
Beaumont, L.....	4,461	Hon. L. W. Lambton, L	No contest.	Mr. John Ellis, C	Mr. M. T. Scott, C
Castlereagh, C.....	3,887	Colonel Surtees, C	No contest.	Mr. G. C. Brodrick, L	Mr. A. Donovan, L
<b>DORSETSHIRE (2), 7,236.</b>		Hon. W. H. B. Portman, L	<b>MONTGOMERYSHIRE (1), 5,312.</b>		Mr. Jno. Pearson, Q.C., L
No contest.		1876, Mr. H. G. Sturt, C, become Lord Alington.	<b>NORFOLK, NORTH (2), 6,474.</b>		
Digby, C.....	3,060	Mr. John Floyer, C	No contest.	Mr. W. Wynn, C	
Fowler, L-C.....	1,866	Hon. E. H. T. Digby, C	No contest.	Mr. Stuart Rendel, L	
<b>ESSEX, EAST (2), 6,242.</b>		Mr. J. Round, C	<b>NORFOLK, SOUTH (2), 7,421.</b>		
No contest.		Colonel Brise, C	No contest.	Sir E. H. K. Lacon, C	
		Mr. C. P. Wood, L	1876 (Death of Hon. F. Walpole).	Duff, C.....	2,302
<b>ESSEX, SOUTH (2), 11,202.</b>			Buxton, L.....	2,192	
Baring, C.....	3,646	Mr. T. C. Baring, C	<b>NORFOLK, WEST (2), 6,482.</b>		
Makins, C.....	3,528	Colonel Makins, C	No contest.	Mr. G. W. P. Bentinck, C	
Wingfield-Baker, L.....	2,735	Mr. E. W. Buxton, L	No contest.	Mr. W. A. Tyssen-Amherst, C	
Johnston, L.....	2,728	Mr. E. L. Lyell, L	No contest.	Mr. A. Hamond, L	
<b>ESSEX, WEST (2), 5,780.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, NORTH (2), 5,970.</b>		
No contest.		Sir H. Selwin-Ibbetson, C	No contest.	Mr. S. G. S. Sackville, C	
		Lord Eustace Cecil, C	1877 (Death of Rt. Hon. G. W. Hunt.)	Burghley C.....	2,261
<b>FLINTSHIRE (1), 4,170.</b>			Edgell, L.....	1,475	
No contest.		Lord E. Grosvenor, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>GLAMORGANSHIRE (2), 12,785.</b>			No contest.	Sir R. Knightley, C	
Vivian, L.....	4,100	Mr. Hussey Vivian, L	No contest.	Major Cartwright, C	
Talbot, L.....	4,040	Mr. C. R. M. Talbot, L	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
Guest, C.....	3,353		No contest.	Earl Percy, C	
<b>GLOUCESTERSHIRE, EAST (2), 8,674.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
No contest.		Sir M. Hicks-Beach, C	No contest.	Sir R. Knightley, C	
		Mr. J. R. Yorke, C	No contest.	Major Cartwright, C	
<b>GLOUCESTERSHIRE, WEST (2), 12,186.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Plunkett, C.....	4,553	Colonel Kingscote, L	No contest.	Sir R. Knightley, C	
Kingscote, L.....	4,344	Hon. E. R. S. Plunkett, C	No contest.	Major Cartwright, C	
Berkeley, L.....	4,317	Lord Moreton, L	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
<b>HAMPSHIRE, NORTH (2), 5,761.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
No contest.		Sir George Codrington, C	No contest.	Sir R. Knightley, C	
		Mr. W. Beach, C	No contest.	Major Cartwright, C	
<b>HAMPSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,679.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Scott, C.....	3,878	Lord H. Scott, C	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
Cowper-Temple, L.....	2,946	Mr. F. Compton, C	No contest.	Earl Percy, C	
Swanston, L.....	2,382	Mr. T. Richardson, L	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
<b>HEREFORDSHIRE (3), 8,227.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
No contest.		Sir R. Y. Bailey, C	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
		Major Peplow, C	No contest.	Earl Percy, C	
		Mr. R. Biddulph, L	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
		Mr. T. Duckham, L	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
<b>HERTFORDSHIRE (3), 9,811.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Halsey, C.....	4,499	Mr. Halsey, C	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
Smith, C.....	4,498	Mr. A. Smith, C	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
Cowper, L.....	2,974	Hon. H. F. Cowper, L	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
Brand, L.....	2,964		No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
<b>HUNTINGDONSHIRE (3), 4,025.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Fellowes, C.....	1,648	Capt. W. H. Fellowes, C	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
Pelly, C.....	1,482	Vice. Mandeville, C	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
Douglas Gordon, L.....	1,192	Lord Douglas Gordon, L	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
<b>1872 (Death of Sir H. Pelly.)</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Mandeville, C.....	1,468		No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
Fitzwilliam, L.....	1,410		No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
<b>KENT, EAST (2), 13,097.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Miles, C.....	5,424	Mr. E. Pemberton, C	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
Pemberton, C.....	5,405	Mr. A. Akers-Douglas, C	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
Tufton, L.....	4,308	Mr. E. F. Davies, L	No contest.	Sir M. W. Ridley, C	
<b>1875 (Mr. Miles became Lord Londes.)</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Sir W. Knatchbull (no contest.)			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
1876 (Sir W. Knatchbull resigned.)			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Deedes, C (no contest.)			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>KENT, MID (2), 8,602.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Dyke, C.....	3,710	Mr. W. Hart-Dyke, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Holmesdale, C.....	3,540	Sir E. Filmer, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Salomons, L.....	2,956	Mr. E. Cazalet, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
		Mr. H. W. Elphinstone, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>KENT, WEST (2), 14,348.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Mills, C.....	5,298	Sir C. H. Mills, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Talbot, C.....	5,227	Lord Lewisham, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Hamilton, L.....	3,391	Mr. Bompas, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Majoribanks, L.....	3,348	Mr. John May, I	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>1878 (Mr. Talbot resigned.)</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Lord Lewisham (no contest.)			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>LANCASHIRE, NORTH (2), 16,737.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
No contest.		Colonel Stanley, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
(Mr. W. Patten created Baron Winmarleigh.)			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
T. H. Clifton, C (no contest.)		T. H. Clifton, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>LANCASHIRE, NORTH EAST (2), 12,365.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Holt, C.....	4,578	Mr. W. F. Eceyrd, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Starkie, C.....	4,488	Mr. Y. P. C. Starkie, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Kay-Shuttleworth, L.....	4,401	Marquis of Hartington, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Cavendish, L.....	4,297	Mr. R. W. Grafton, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>LANCASHIRE, SOUTH EAST (2), 24,653.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Egerton, C.....	9,187	Hon. E. Egerton, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Hardcastle, C.....	9,015	Mr. Hardcastle, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Rylands, L.....	7,464	Mr. W. Agnew, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Taylor, L.....	7,453	Mr. R. Leake, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>LANCASHIRE, SOUTH WEST (2), 25,650.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
No contest.		Colonel Blackburne, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
1875 (Death of Mr. C. Turner.)			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Blackburne, L-C (no contest.)		Right Hon. R. A. Cross, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
		Mr. W. Rathbone, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
		Hon. H. Molyneux, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>LEICESTERSHIRE, NORTH (2), 6,374.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Manners, C.....	2,978	Lord J. Manners, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Clowes, C.....	2,568	Colonel Burnaby, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Packe, L.....	1,997	Mr. Hussey Packe, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>LEICESTERSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 8,845.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Pell, C.....	3,583	Mr. A. Pell, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Heygate, C.....	3,269	Mr. W. U. Heygate, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Paget, L.....	2,833	Mr. J. J. Paget, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>LINCOLNSHIRE, NORTH (2), 10,061.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
No contest.		Mr. R. Wynn, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
		Sir J. D. Astley, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
		Mr. R. Laycock, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>LINCOLNSHIRE, MID (2), 8,685.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
No contest.		Mr. H. Chaplin, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
		Mr. E. Stanhope, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>LINCOLNSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 10,475.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
No contest.		Sir W. E. W. Gregory, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
		Mr. J. C. Lawrence, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>MERIONETHSHIRE (1), 3,469.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
No contest.		Mr. S. Holland, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
		Mr. Dunlop, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
<b>MIDDLESEX (2), 29,949.</b>			<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Hamilton, C.....	10,343	Lord George Hamilton, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Coope, C.....	9,867	Mr. E. Coope, C	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Enfield, L.....	5,623	Mr. Herbert Gladstone, L	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		
Lehmann, L.....	5,192		<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SOUTH (2), 5,804.</b>		

## POLLING DAYS.

The following list gives the appointments already made for the polling in the constituencies named:—

April 1 (To-day).—Aberdeen, Armagh, Aylesbury, Bath, Beaumaris, Belfast, Boston, Bradford, Bridport, Brecon, Bury St. Edmunds, Cambridge (University), Canterbury, Carlisle, Carlisle, Carnarvon Boroughs, Chelsea, Chester, Chippenham, Cirencester, Cokermouth, Downpatrick, Dundalk, Durham, Edinburgh, Finsbury, Greenwich, Hampshire (South), Harwich, Hastings, Hereford, Hertford, Hull, Ipswich, Kendal, King's Lynn, Knaresborough, Lambeth, Leeds, Lewes, Limerick, Liverpool, Londonderry, Macclesfield, Maldon, Manchester, Marylebone, Merthyr Tydvil, Middlesborough, Newark, Newry, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Newport (Isle of Wight), Northampton, Nottingham, Oxford, Paisley, Perth, Petersfield, Portlough, Portsmouth, Reading, Retford (East), Salford, Sheffield, Shrewsbury, Southwark, Stroud, Sussex (East), Tamworth, Tiverton, Tower Hamlets, Tralee, Wakefield, Warwick, Wenlock, Weymouth, Whitby, Wigan, Woodstock, Worcester.

April 2.—Anglesea, Brandon, Bridgenorth, Bristol, Carrickfergus, Chichester, Christchurch, Clonmel, Cornwall (West), Cricklade, Darlington, Dewsbury, Dorchester, Drogheda, Droitwich, Dublin (University), Dundee, Duncannon, Ennis, Enniskillen, Galway, Glasgow, Gravesend, Greenock, Leicester, Mallow, Melton, Marlborough, Marlow (Great), Northampton, Portlough, Ross (New), Rutlandshire, Salisbury, Sandwich, Scarborough, Shaftesbury, Shoreham, Stafford, Stoke-upon-Trent, Surrey (West), Sussex (East), Tavistock, Walsall, Wareham, Warrington, Wednesbury, Whitehaven, Wilton, York.

April 3.—Aberdeenshire (East), Anglesea, Ashton-under-Lyne, Athlone, Birkenhead, Brighton, Carnarvon Boroughs, Coleraine, Derby, Dover, Dublin (county), Dumfriesshire, Duncannon, Essex (South), Flint Boroughs, Gateshead, Hartlepool (The), Helston, Herefordshire, Huddersfield, Kent (West), Kilkenny, Kinsale, Lymington, Middlesex, Monmouthshire, Montrose Burghs, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Newry, Pembroke, Perthshire, Renfrewshire, Southampton, South Shields, Staffordshire (East), Stalybridge, Sterlingshire, Stockton-upon-Tees, Thirsk, Tynemouth, Worcestershire (West), Wycombe (High).

April 5.—Brecon (County), Cambridgeshire, Cork, Cumberland (East), Devonshire (South), Dublin, Dumfriesshire, Dumfriesshire, Edinburghshire (Midlothian), Essex (East), Forfarshire, Haddingtonshire, Kerry (County), Kildare, Kincardineshire, King's County, Limerick, Malmesbury, Morpeth, Northamptonshire (South), Pembroke Boroughs, St. Ives (Cornwall), Suffolk (West), Surrey (Mid), Waterford, Waterford (County), Westmorland, Westmoreland, Yorkshire (West Riding, Eastern Division).

April 6.—Aberdeenshire (West), Antrim (County), Ayr, Banffshire, Bedfordshire, Berwickshire, Buteshire, Caithness-shire, Cardiff, Carnarvonshire, Clackmannan and Kinross, Clare, Denbigh Boroughs, Derbyshire (East), Dumfriesshire, Durham (South), Elgin and Nairn shires, Forfarshire, Glamorganshire, Gloucestershire (East), Haddington Burghs, Haverfordwest, Hertfordshire, Kent (Mid), Lancashire (South-West), Linlithgowshire, Monmouth Boroughs, Montgomery Boroughs, Norfolk (South), Northamptonshire (North), Northumberland (North), Nottinghamshire, Queen's County, Radnorshire, St. Andrew's



Burghs, Somersetshire (West), Warwickshire (South), Wicklow, Wigtown Burghs, Wiltshire (South), Youghal.

April 7.—Argyleshire, Carmarthenshire, Cumberland (West), Derbyshire (South), Devonshire (North), Down, Galway (County), Inverness Burghs, Kilmarnock, Kirkcudbrightshire, Lancashire (South-East), Leicestershire (South), Leith, Leitrim, Longford, Merionethshire, Oxfordshire, Radnor Boroughs, Selkirkshire and Peebleshire, Shropshire (North), Sligo (County), Staffordshire (North), Stirling Burghs, Suffolk (East), Surrey (East), Sussex (West), Warwickshire (South), Wiltshire (North), Yorkshire (East Riding).

April 8.—Ayrshire (South), Beaumaris (Anglesey Boroughs), Blanford, Buckinghamshire, Cardiganshire, Cheshire (West), Clare (County), Cornwall (East), Dorsetshire, Durham (North), Elgin Burghs, Essex (West), Falkirk Burghs, Flintshire, Gloucestershire (West), Huntingdonshire, Isle of Wight (County), Kent (East), Kirkcaldy Burghs, Londonderry (County), Monaghan (County), Roxburghshire, Somersetshire (Mid), Tyrone (County), Warwickshire (North), Westmeath, Westmoreland, Wigtownshire.

April 9.—Armagh (County), Ayrshire (North), Berkshire, Cavan, Cheshire (East), Derbyshire (North), Devonshire (East), Fermanagh (County), King's County, Invernessshire, Lanarkshire (South), Lancashire (North-East), Limerick (County), Lincolnshire (Mid), Louth (County), Montgomeryshire, Norfolk (West), Northamptonshire (North), Northumberland (South), Shropshire (South), Somersetshire (Mid), Staffordshire (West), Surrey (West), Westmeath, Wiltshire (North), Yorkshire (North Riding), Yorkshire (West Riding, Southern Division).

April 10.—Aberdeenshire (East), Cornwall (West), Fifeshire, Forfarshire, Kilkenny (County), Lancashire (North), Meath (County).

April 12.—Denbighshire, Edinburgh and St. Andrew's (Universities), and four following days, Hawick, Leicestershire (North), Mayo (County), Norfolk (North), Staffordshire (West), Worcestershire (East).

April 13.—Cardigan Boroughs, Cheshire (Mid), Cork (County), Lanarkshire (North), Ross-shire, Somersetshire (East), Tipperary (County), Worcestershire (West).

April 14.—Lincolnshire (South).

April 26 and 27.—Orkney and Shetland.

#### THE TEMPERANCE VOTE.

Mr. Andrew Dunn has addressed the following letter to Sir Wilfrid Lawson:—"Dear Sir Wilfrid, I am filled with anxiety as to how our Permissive Bill and Good Templar friends are going to vote. The minds of many are perplexed, but it is evident to me that at such a crisis the 'vote for vote' principle, if carried out, would bring shame and confusion of face upon all of us. The conductors of some of our temperance journals—most estimable men, all of them—have studied so intensely and so continuously the terrific evils which result from the liquor traffic that those evils stand out before them as a mighty spectre, beyond which the whole universe to them is a blank besides. And no great wonder. The spectacle is certainly frightful, and that the magistrates of this land, so many of the honourable and the good, should be largely responsible for this state of things, is painful in the extreme. Hence the urgency of the demand for relieving the magistrates of their power of licensing. Well, I confess that if Parliament were like a vestry or a county board, or had only to do with the inhabitants of these islands, then the 'vote for vote' rule would have my adhesion; but when we remember that the British Parliament governs directly some 300,000,000 of people, or a fourth of the human race, for all of whom Christ died as truly as for the 34,000,000 within our own borders; and when we remember that the question of peace or war—the happiness and well-being, the lives and the liberties of peoples all round the globe—is in the hands of these men at every turn, then the thought comes upon us with irresistible force, Can it be right at this moment to imperil the righteous government of the world by blindly looking only at British alcohol, or shutting our eyes to the disgrace, the danger, and the responsibility of allowing our great 'Gunpowder and Glory' rulers to harass and worry the world, and load us at home with wicked taxation for another six years? Our temperance writers seem to think only of one-tenth of the population, forgetting that the other nine-tenths have surely some right to consideration. Some months ago I wrote a letter begging our friends to make up their minds not to throw away their votes, but in all cases to vote for the candidates who will aid in turning out the Beaconsfield Ministry, and in no possible case to vote for a Tory though he should 'swear by the Permissive Bill.' I shall adhere to this doctrine, and now stronger than ever. The tide of public opinion is rising all round in favour of temperance, and your own experience in the House demonstrates that our only hope must be in a Liberal Government. Out of your 134 supporters on the local option resolution of 5th instant, you only had one Tory—Mr. Birley. Then, can it be too much to say, with all respect and deference, that common sense, reason, and conscience dictate, that all temperance men should do their utmost to carry the Liberal candidates, regardless of all other considerations. I am a teetotaler of forty-three years' standing. I venture to think that I have done something and suffered something in the cause of total abstinence. No one can question my loyalty to the cause, and therefore I appeal to my brethren in the most earnest and fraternal terms to make conscience of voting for and supporting the Liberals everywhere.—I have the honour to remain, dear Sir Wilfrid, yours faithfully, ANDREW DUNN.—To Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Bart. Southwark, March 26.

The list of candidates as it stood on Tuesday gives a very fair idea of what the competition for seats will be. There are now 1,134 candidates in the field—namely, 517 Liberals, 527 Conservatives, and 90 Home Rulers. This number is 53 in excess of the number that went to the poll at the last general election in 1874, when the Liberal candidates numbered 504, the Conservatives 510, and the Home Rulers 67. An analysis of the list of candidates shows that there are 33 more candidates for seats in the counties of England and Wales than in 1874, those for the cities and boroughs remaining the same. For the county elections there are 31 more Liberals and 2 more Conservatives; while as regards the cities and boroughs there are 6 fewer Liberal candidates and 6 more Conservative ones. In Scotland there are 3 more Liberals and 8 more Conservatives than on the last occasion; while in Ireland there is a reduction on the one hand of 15 Liberal candidates, and on the other an addition of one Conservative and 23 Home Rulers.

#### DISESTABLISHMENT IN SCOTLAND.

The following address has been issued by the Executive of the Scottish Council of the Liberation Society:—

"Electors!—The General Election has at last come. We have waited six years for the opportunity of action. Is it now to be lost?"

"Party issues before the country ought not to hinder our using all legitimate means to return to Parliament the best possible men for Disestablishment; and it is indisputable that Disestablishment candidates are the equals of any in their attachment to all other branches of Liberal policy."

"The fear of danger to Liberal seats by faithfulness to Disestablishment is groundless, and the cry misleading; but it is not wise to do evil that good may come. The State Church has been the injustice of generations, and the scandal and grievance do not diminish with years. How long the next Parliament may last it is not possible to foresee, and its character will be what electors make it. It is of the utmost consequence to secure and support those candidates who will do justice to Disestablishment amid the contingencies of the future."

"The Church and Tory party have thrown down their challenge. They have brought forward candidates all pledged to the maintenance of the Establishment of Scotland. Liberals, also, are sought to be influenced and pledged to silence and inaction on Disestablishment during the whole of next Parliament. This is a most injurious policy, and to be firmly resisted."

"Since last General Election the question of the Disestablishment and disendowment of the Established Church in Scotland has made immense strides. It has gained a commanding position which must be maintained and improved. The friends of Disestablishment are called upon to be true to the cause entrusted to their fidelity amid the efforts now made all around to push the question aside."

"Lord Hartington, Mr. Gladstone, and other Liberal leaders have declared that when Scotland decides for Disestablishment English Liberals will unite in giving effect to their wishes. The leaders at present naturally fix exclusive attention on the issue of the change of Government. But with Tories and Churchmen making common cause, the final neutrality of Liberals is impossible. As it is, the friends of Disestablishment must make the question more or less a test question now, if they would not indefinitely postpone their just claims."

"Without doubt, the majority of the Scottish people is now outside the Established Church. By their ecclesiastical connections they have virtually declared that the existing State Church should be disestablished and disendowed. All the leading churches, by express action, have declared for Disestablishment. Not less have numerous and large public meetings throughout the country enforced the same demand. Some adherents of the Established Church itself are prepared to support measures which shall make all religious denominations equal in the eye of the law."

"It only remains that electors should have the courage of their convictions, and give practical effect to them, at this time, by consistent action at the poll, to hasten the termination of the too-long-continued system of ecclesiastical privilege."

#### ECCELESIASTICAL MISCELLANY.

**ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDEN AT CLAYDON.**—A correspondent writes:—"There was quite a lively scene at Claydon on Easter Monday, at the vestry meeting. The Rev. G. Drury, the rector, presided, and amongst those present, besides many parishioners, were the 'Reverend Mother' (Miss Mary Ware), Sister Clare, and another nun and several young women, said to be servants at the rectory. Mr. Rose, the people's churchwarden (against whom Mr. Drury recently brought an action), was again proposed. The rector objected to this till Mr. Rose's accounts had been passed. The book was handed in, but the chairman stated that the accounts were not made out, and asked for the subscription-book. Mr. Rose left the meeting to procure it, and in his absence a warm altercation took place between the rector and some of his parishioners, and another gentleman (Mr. Corder) was proposed as churchwarden, and a vote was taken in Mr. Rose's absence. The result was declared by Mr. Drury to be twenty-five for Mr. Corder and five against Mr. Rose, having returned, demanded his churchwarden's book, but the chairman refused to let him have it. A poll was then demanded on behalf of Mr. Rose, and it was agreed to take it on Saturday next. After a passage of arms between Mr. A. J. Smith and the Rev. G. Drury, the stormy proceedings were brought to a close."

**THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.**—In a review of Dr. Stoughton's "Religion in England under Queen Anne and the Georges," the *Record* says:—"The Church Missionary Society was at first subject to no Episcopal authority, and was, happily for its independence, 'rather a society within the Church of England than a society of the Established Church of England.' The ground of membership was a pecuniary contribution, and its administration was vested in governors and treasurer, together with a managing committee of twenty-five, all respectively elected by the members of the society. Its earliest missionaries were not Episcopally ordained according to the Anglican theory. They were at first Lutherans, or members of some other Reformed Church on the Continent. Its missionaries are now all Episcopally ordained, but if the young Bishop Copleston shall be allowed to pursue unchecked his headstrong career, it may be that the society will be compelled to recur, at least in Ceylon, to its original constitution."

**STATE CHURCH OPPRESSION.**—Mr. Leatham, on the occasion of laying a memorial stone of a new Wesleyan chapel at Fartown, Huddersfield, said that until he went into the south of England, he never appreciated what an amount of quiet persecution the Methodists are still exposed to. It was not too much to say that in some rural parts they have no facilities whatever for public worship. Asking why it was that no such difficulty was found in Fartown, he answered that it was because in the great manufacturing districts the Church was already practically disestablished, and he exhorted his hearers to hope and work for an extension of their freedom to remoter districts.

**THE LATE CARDINAL ANTONELLI.**—The promoters of the cause of the Countess Lambertini against the family of the late Cardinal Antonelli have commenced their suit over again. The decision of the Court of Cassation in Rome was supposed to have settled the business, and the evidence of the lady's witnesses was rejected as insufficient. The lawyers, however, were not discouraged. The Advocate Mari, who represented the heirs of the Cardinal, staked their case upon the baptismal register of the Countess Lambertini,

in which that lady was set down as the daughter of the Marconi. The two ex-Ministers of Justice, Tajani and Mancini, who held the brief of the Countess, declare themselves to be in the possession of valid proofs that the baptismal register has been tampered with, and that the insertion of the child's name as the daughter of the Marconi is a forgery. The suit will thus recommence upon a new and quite unexpected line of attack.

**EDUCATION.**—The *Record* of March 24 says:—"It is capable of proof that the religious instruction given in many Board schools is thoroughly sound and useful in its character. Abundant evidence of this is to be found in the reports from time to time published by the Government Inspectors of Board schools. Moreover, it must not be forgotten that the general work of Board schools is a powerful, though indirect, aid to purely religious work. It is calculated to facilitate the labours of Christian ministers, Sunday-school teachers, and other philanthropists."

**THE JESUITS AND THE FRENCH CLERGY.**—An extraordinary scene has occurred in the Angers Cathedral. A Jesuit father named Forbes, the Lent preacher appointed by Bishop Freppel, made a violent attack on modern society and the Republican Government. When he descended from the pulpit the curé rose and, addressing the congregation, said:—"I have hitherto restrained myself, but I cannot now refrain from protesting against the character of these sermons. I can neither approve the spirit nor the intention of them, and I beg my parishioners to reserve their donations for the collection which I am about to make myself for the chapel of the cemetery."

**THE ROMISH PRIESTS AND THE CONSERVATIVES.**—"A Conservative," writing in the *Record*, says:—"In the speech of the First Lord of the Admiralty at Westminster, as reported in the *Times* of to-day (Wednesday), I find that he alludes in very strong words to Mr. Biggar's utterances. On turning to the report of the same speech in the *Daily Telegraph* I find all mention of the subject omitted! I mention these facts as an illustration of how, at the present moment, electioneering manoeuvres are being manipulated by the Irish Roman Catholic priests, who, in spite of all counter-protestations, are thick and thin (though occult) supporters of Messrs. Parnell, Biggar, and Co. Here, in Dover, the Conservative campaign opened with true, loyal appeals against Home Rulers. The priests (I could give names if it were prudent to do so) at once threatened to withdraw the votes of the entire faction in this town. Addresses and manifestoes, already printed and posted up, were suppressed and destroyed, and the contest is now being waged without the slightest re-echo of Lord Beaconsfield's appeal to the country against Irish agitators! England is little aware how the public voice is at the present moment stifled by Irish Romanism."

**WESLEYAN CANDIDATES.**—The *Manchester Guardian* says that eight Wesleyans are seeking seats in the New Parliament, Messrs. Alderman M'Arthur, Lambeth; A. M'Arthur, Leicester; S. D. Waddy, Q.C., Sheffield; W. S. Allen, and S. R. Edge, Newcastle-under-Lyme; J. C. Clarke, Abingdon; H. H. Fowler, Wolverhampton; and H. J. Atkinson, Hull. All except the last-named gentleman are Liberals, and all seek re-election excepting Messrs. Fowler and Atkinson.

**LENTEN SERVICES.**—The season of Lent has been observed in the metropolis very generally, many churches of the Evangelical school having something more to mark the season than the old custom of Wednesday and Friday prayers, with special preachers. The habit of a course of lectures by the same clergymen on a definite subject is now very general. A sermon is often delivered separately from the offices with only hymns, a metrical Litany, and the latter part of the communion office. Conferences on Sunday afternoons or week-day nights—apparently another name for meditation—have been popular in many places. The three-hours' service is becoming quite common. The Bishop of Lichfield conducted it on Good Friday in his cathedral, and in several northern towns it was used by pronounced Evangelicals. Numbers of churches remain open all day, and there is a growing custom of relays of people following one another. The rule as to music very much varies, but it is more often used than in former days.—*Times*.

**PROGRESS OF SACRAMENTARIANISM.**—Without figure of speech, the knowledge of the Divine Love in its Catholic and Sacramental aspect has made astounding progress among us within the last twenty years. This progress is almost imperceptible, but continuous and marvellous. Some of the mistakes of the early years of the movement have been rectified. It is felt that in certain cases the cart was put before the horse, and the ritual which should be the outcome or expression of loving faith forced on an unwilling people. Yet this, too, has been overruled for good. The English are such an intensely Conservative race for good or evil that shocks, and earthquakes, and great perturbations must accompany every genuine effort to restore Catholic faith and worship. People must be startled a little to be awakened from their state of lethargy. But now the victory is almost won.—*Church Times*.

**SCHOOL BOARD ROOMS.**—In connection with the letting of Board schoolrooms for hire, the *School Board Chronicle* says that at Wolverhampton the School Board were applied to for the use of the Board school for religious services, and, instead of deciding the question for themselves, asked the opinion of the Education Department on the subject, putting, in particular, the question whether the consent of the Department under Section 22 would be necessary. Their lordships stated that it did not rest with the Department to determine for what purpose a Board might allow a schoolroom to be used. They added that if a ratepayer objected to any particular use of a schoolroom such objection would have to be considered and decided by a court of law; and that if, under Section 22, the Board should be advised that the consent of the Department was necessary, they would not be prepared to accord that consent.

**MESSRS. JAMES CLARKE AND CO.** have issued two pamphlets *apropos* of that great struggle to the issue of which men of all shades of opinion are now looking with so much interest. Under the title, "The Nation's Vote," Dr. Peter Bayne supplies a thoughtful and comprehensive survey of the situation of affairs, setting plainly forth the Men and the Policies between which the people have to choose. It would be well if its clear statements could find access to the minds of thousands of Conservative electors. On the theme, "A Spirited Foreign Policy," the Rev. J. Guinness Rogers makes a timely "appeal to the electors," passing in review, in a very telling manner, that unworthy course of diplomacy which the Premier—more successful as a maker of phrases than as a statesman—has attempted to glorify, by an incongruous association with that high-sounding phrase.



## SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNIONS.

THE thirty-third annual Sunday-school Conference in connection with the Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire Sunday-school Unions' Association was held on Friday at the Brunswick Chapel, Bury. The morning sitting commenced at ten o'clock, under the presidency of Mr. Thomas Watson, of Rochdale. A paper on "The character of the education needed to elevate the scholars in our Sunday-schools," was read by the Rev. W. H. Fothergill, and led to an interesting discussion. The afternoon sitting was presided over by Mr. S. Knowles, of Tottington, who briefly introduced Mr. E. Towers, by whom an address was delivered on "The spirit and manner in which we ought to celebrate the centenary of the establishment of Sunday-schools." The change which had taken place in the condition of England since 1780 had been marvellous. His desire was that if England had to obtain ascendancy in Europe it should be by acting as the disseminator of God's truth in the hearts of the young, and not as dictator in the councils of the nations. In that case there could be no doubt as to the great influence for good which she would exert, or that she would occupy a proud and honoured place in the hearts of the people of the various nationalities. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Tower for his address, and a similar compliment was paid to Mr. Knowles for his services in the chair. Mr. B. Butcher (Bury), before the sitting concluded, stated that next year's conference will be held at Southport. During the afternoon a meeting of persons engaged in teaching females was held, presided over by Mrs. E. C. A. Allen, of Bury. Miss Bingham (Liverpool) read a paper, the title of which was, "The special requirements of our female scholars to fit them for life, and how the Sunday-school can supply the need." She dwelt strongly on the desirableness of cultivating good temper, and remarked that women's tempers often did more to fill public-houses than all the wiles of the publican. She also referred to the inordinate love of dress which characterised many young women, and said it behoved female teachers to do everything in their power to counteract the passion for gaudy, extravagant, and often unsuitable dress, which had ruined thousands. The teacher should also, she thought, try to exert her influence in preventing her scholars from choosing bad companions, and ought also to endeavour to guide them in selecting the books which they read. In order to do that it was, of course, necessary that the teacher herself should be well read. Where that was the case the taste of the scholar could often be directed to instructive books of a highly moral tone. It was also desirable that the teacher should make herself acquainted with the amusements of her scholars, and wherever possible she might with advantage encourage a taste for music, because it was easily gratified. A discussion followed, which was taken part in by Miss Allsop (Bury), Mr. Ashton (Darwen), Mrs. Davenport and Mrs. Lee (Bolton), and others. At the close votes of thanks were given to Miss Bingham for her paper, and to Mrs. Allen for presiding. In the evening a public tea-meeting was held. Mr. T. Snape (Liverpool), presided, and addresses were delivered by Mr. E. Towers and other gentlemen.

The twenty-fourth annual conference of the Yorkshire Association of Sunday-school Unions was held in Nether Chapel, Sheffield, on Friday. Mr. Langley presided, and there were represented 600 schools, 20,000 teachers, and 150,000 scholars. The Rev. R. P. Macmaster (Bradford) read a paper, "The Sunday-school in relation to the preservation of the Christian Sabbath," which gave rise to an animated discussion. The Rev. J. C. Watts, President of the Methodist New Connexion, presided at the afternoon conference. Mr. Cooper (Birmingham) read a paper, "How to make the best use of the centenary year," and a variety of suggestions were thrown out to that end, both by the reader and those who took part in the discussion. Mr. Mundella, President of the Association, was in the chair in the evening, and addressed a public meeting on the importance of Sunday-school training in forming the morality of the nation. Mr. Waddy was also present, and gave his Sunday-school experiences. Representatives from Leeds, Birmingham, and Bradford, addressed the meeting. The conference will be held next Good Friday at Halifax.

Sir Trevor Lawrence opened, on Monday, at the Board Schools in the Battersea-park-road, a Sunday Scholars' Exhibition of a very interesting character. Designed for the encouragement of skill and industry during leisure hours, its patrons are the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Hon. Evelyn Ashley, Alderman Sir J. C. Lawrence, Sir Trevor Lawrence, Sir H. Peek, Alderman McArthur, the Rev. G. M. Murphy, Mr. J. Stiff, and Mr. R. Davis. The President is Sir Charles Reed, Chairman of the School Board for London. In the boys' department of the exhibition there were many excellent specimens of that skill and industry which it was the design of the promoters to encourage. First, second, and third prizes were offered in each section, the first and second sections including specimens of graining, decorators' work, stencilling, sign and facia writing, engraving, painting and embossing, picture frames and basket-

work, turning and carving, joinery and cabinet work. In the third section, open to all under fourteen years of age, prizes were given for the best specimens of toys, dolls' houses, carving in monkey cocoanuts, puzzles and fret-work, models of ships and boats, windmills and landscapes. In the girls' department the classes were more numerous, and comprised recognitions for knitting and sewing, machine work and antimacassars, patched, knitted, and crochet quilts and cushions, braiding and tatting, hearthrugs and hassocks, slippers and millinery. Laundry work was not forgotten, and prizes were given for the best got up shirts and collars, cuffs and handkerchiefs, ties and collarettes, dresses, robes, and curtains. The department which perhaps commanded the greatest share of interest was that devoted to cookery, where bread and puddings, pies and potatoes, cake and jelly, fish and fowl, were shown as being prepared by girls of tender age, many of these dishes being laid out in a highly creditable manner. Open to boys and girls there were classes which sent specimens of drawing and maps, writing and sketching. There was a very numerous attendance upon the opening of the exhibition, Sir Trevor Lawrence, who was accompanied by Lady Lawrence, receiving a hearty vote of thanks on the motion of the Rev. G. M. Murphy, seconded by the Rev. W. Sullivan, one of the vice-presidents.

## JUBILEE OF THE APPRENTICESHIP SOCIETY.

A PUBLIC meeting, preceded by the serving of tea and coffee in the library, was held on Wednesday evening in the Boardroom of the Memorial Hall, to celebrate the jubilee of the Apprenticeship Society, which, although but little known, has rendered invaluable aid to hundreds of Nonconformist ministers by enabling them to place their sons in such ways of earning their livelihood as would otherwise have been closed to them.

The chair was occupied by W. Gage Spicer, Esq. A hymn having been sung, and prayer offered by the Rev. J. Marchant, an interesting account of the foundation and growth of the society was read by the Rev. J. V. Mummery, F.R.A.S. The institution owed its origin to Mr. Metcalf, of Roxton House, Bedfordshire. The meeting called to establish it was held on October 13, 1829. Some forty persons of influence in the counties of Bedfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire, and Hertfordshire were invited to that meeting. But only six presented themselves, and Bedfordshire was alone represented. It was therefore proposed to limit its operations to that county and its vicinity. One candidate, out of two, was successful at the first election, and afterwards became a respectable chemist and a generous subscriber to the funds of the society. After naming the various changes which took place as years went on in the office-bearers of the society, Mr. Mummery referred to his own appointment as secretary in 1853. In 1869 the Rev. J. Marchant became assistant secretary, and six years later received a cordial and unanimous invitation to the secretaryship, Mr. Mummery being appointed President of the society. A host of the illustrious dead had served upon the committee, among them being the Rev. Drs. Binney, Collier, Tidman, and Spence, Sir F. Crossley, and Sir Titus Salt. Ladies also had rendered valuable aid. The requirements of the times had been carefully watched by the society, and the rules had been from time to time altered to meet the changes which took place in the commercial world. At no period were the labours of the society more important, or its range of usefulness larger than at present. It had given 600 children a fair start in life, at the cost of about £10,000. Many of those thus aided had distinguished themselves in business and professional life. To the Jubilee Fund some £250 had been promised or contributed, but it was hoped that before the year was out it would reach £500.

After a few words from the Chairman, who expressed his warm interest in the society, and his desire to aid it in every possible way, the meeting was addressed by the Rev. J. H. Wilson, D.D., who said he had no doubt that if the society were better known its income would be much larger. The ministers who were helped laboured hard. Their means were small, and they deserved to be helped. Dr. Vaughan once said that he had heard it remarked that if you wanted to see the weakness of Dissent you must go to the country; but, added the Doctor, if you also want to see the self-denial and devotion which Dissent can produce, you must also go to the country. Just as the Church-Aid Society concentrated, in order to diffuse, the power and wealth of the denomination, so should the society the claims of which they had met to advocate. The Rev. W. K. Rowe, Baptist minister, followed, and advised the printing and circulating of his paper, which Mr. Mummery had read. The fact that the benefits of the society were not restricted to one denomination should, he thought, be made widely known. There was, he might add, no lack of applicants for the help of the society. The meeting was next addressed by James Clarke, Esq., of the *Christian World*, who

thought that public interest in the operations of the society would be deepened if some account were published, without giving names, of the after careers of those who had been aided. If such an account were furnished to him, he remarked, amidst warm applause, he would certainly publish it as wide as the Christian world. Mr. Clarke concluded by promising to subscribe £10 to the Jubilee Fund. The Rev. W. Tyler, who followed, remarked that the name of the society might be, perhaps, altered with advantage. Boys were now kept at school until sixteen or seventeen, and then apprenticed for three or four years, so that apprenticeship, as it was formerly understood, had become obsolete. He was inclined to think that parents, instead of trying to get their boys into banks, and so forth, would act more wisely if they had them taught some business which met very general requirements. He had promised £5 to the Jubilee Fund, but would willingly make it £10 if necessary. A vote of thanks to the chairman brought the proceedings to a close. Other subscriptions, besides those referred to above, were announced during the evening, including a promise of a second £25, should it be needed, from Mr. Mummery, £10 from Mr. S. Morley, M.P., and £25 from the chairman. The attendance, in consequence of the inclement weather and the elections, was small.

## GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES.

A VERY large congregation was present at the morning service at St. Paul's. The sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Russell Stock, the Lord Mayor's chaplain, who took for his text the 32nd verse of the 12th chapter of the Gospel of St. John: "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me." After the ordinary service, and the clergy and the singers had withdrawn, another service was held, lasting three hours, to represent the three hours' agony on the cross, during which the Rev. W. Randall, vicar of All Saints, Clifton, delivered addresses on the seven words from the cross, his addresses being interspersed with singing and intervals for silent prayer. There was also a crowded congregation in Westminster Abbey to hear Dean Stanley, who took for his text: "Now there was darkness over all the land from the sixth to the ninth hour." The service was extremely plain, there being neither singing nor chanting. During the sermon a young man, who was one of many unable to find seats, fainted away. The Dean had already preached once before, at the morning service at the Chapel Royal, St. James's, at which the Prince and Princess of Wales and Prince Leopold were present. The Dean took his text from Matthew xxvii. 51: "And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent." The Dean spoke at some length on party feeling, both religious and political, which was, indeed, an integral, perhaps a necessary, part of the machinery of our national existence; but it was important on great days like Good Friday to know that it was machinery. In alluding to the party barriers between Churchmen and Nonconformists—barriers which were not even pulled down when the struggle of life was over—the Dean illustrated this bitter feeling of partisanship by relating that in one instance the ingenious device had been resorted to of causing the clapper of the bell to strike on different sides, according as the deceased belonged to one sect or the other. At the service the officiating clergymen were the Sub-Dean, the Rev. J. Povah, and the Rev. A. H. Sitwell. There was also a large congregation at the special service at the Chapel Royal, Savoy. The service was conducted by the Rev. Henry White, the Chaplain, and the Rev. Mr. Matlock, and was followed by a sermon from the Rev. Samuel Cheetham, Archdeacon of Southwark. The service was concluded by the "Story of the Cross," sung by the choir. The evening sermon was preached by the Rev. Thomas Helmore. At St. Alban's, Holborn, there were the usual Good Friday services, the altar and the lectern and the pictures near the steps of the chancel being draped in crape. The services commenced as early as seven, with "Meditation," the Rev. A. H. Mackonochie officiating. At ten came "The Reproaches," and at the "Three Hours' service," which commenced at noon, Mr. Mackonochie delivered the addresses upon the "Words." The final service was at eight. There was no celebration of the Holy Communion. There was a very large attendance at St. Vedast's, Cheapside, the rector of which church, the Rev. T. P. Dale, has been recently suspended by Lord Penzance. The services were similar to those at St. Alban's, the preacher of the sermonettes on the seven last words from the cross during the three hours' noon service being the Vicar of St. Stephen's, Lewisham, the Rev. R. Rhodes-Bristowe, M.A. There was no outward manifestation of the Ritualistic observances for which Mr. Dale has been so recently censured by the Ecclesiastical Courts, but this want was amply made up by copious crossings, genuflections, bowings, &c., by the congregation of youths and females. At the Roman Catholic Pro-Cathedral, Kensington, where the high altar was denuded of its ornaments and the various images draped in black cloth, the sermonettes on the "Three Hours' Agony" were preached by Cardinal Manning.

## THE BISHOPS AND PROTESTANTISM.

THE belief is forcing itself every day more strongly upon the public mind that the bishops are not in earnest in maintaining the purity of the Protestant faith and worship in the Established Church; and this want of confidence in them may make itself painfully felt in various ways. Even amongst those who are decidedly hostile to the separation of Church and State there are many who would be quite willing to exclude bishops from the Upper House on the score of their general unfaithfulness. They are in places of great trust, power, and responsibility; but seldom is their influence exercised in maintaining the true doctrine of the Church of England, and repressing those who violate their laws. They will crowd into meetings of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel on some occasion when the election of vice-presidents is to take place; or to Christian Knowledge Society meetings when personal questions are to be considered; but let any of them be asked to preside, say at a meeting to uphold the principles of the Reformation, or to speak at some great gathering in defence of the Protestantism of Church and Throne, and the very thought of it would almost frighten them out of their senses! Is this a state of things creditable to England's Church, or likely to secure for it the support of the nation? Certainly not.

And yet there is worse: for some of the bishops are direct patrons of the Romanisers; they give them livings in the Church; they attend their illegal ceremonies; they use their heretical hymnals; and, as in the present case, absolutely interpose between offenders and the bringing to them of justice. It used to be a moral maxim, if not one of British law, that it is the duty of a man who may happen to be cognisant of the commission of a crime to make it known for the purposes of prosecution. A man who sees another commit an offence against the laws and allows him to escape unpunished is considered as a foe to society—as a sharer, in fact, in his evil deeds. And here is the Bishop of Oxford doing this very thing—denying to a member of the Church of England the right which the Lord Chief Justice of England declared was indubitably his, and protecting under the shield of his episcopal authority the man who was charged with practising forbidden Romish rights in the public worship of God while professing to be a lawful minister of the Church of England, and receiving its emoluments for the supposed discharge of his duty as such. The deposition of such a bishop from his office, if even he acted from a mistaken sense of duty, would be a matter of which he could have no possible right to complain. In any case the laymen of England must look to it, and that speedily, if they would preserve the Church as a national institution, and render impossible such a scandal as the present one. The Lord Chancellor seemed to think that our legislators had not contemplated allowing the law to be put in motion by a non-parishioner or a Nonconformist, or possibly a non-believer in Christianity itself; and Lord Penzance spoke of any one being a complainant, whether Churchman, Nonconformist, Roman Catholic, Christian, Jew, or Mohammedan; but he could not think that the statute intended to vest a power of prosecution in the community at large. Now the principle of an Established Church is that its ministers have the oversight of all sects and classes, so far as these latter choose to acknowledge it; and there is nothing whatever unreasonable or wrong in a Dissenter objecting to the Church established by law on account of its Protestantism being turned into a proselytising establishment for Rome, and setting the law in motion accordingly. Without the acquiescence of orthodox Nonconformists the national existence of the English Church would be in the utmost jeopardy; and if the laity generally considered that it was given up hopelessly to Romish influence, its doom would be much more quickly sealed than that of the Church of Ireland had been. We are, therefore, true friends of the Church, and of those hallowed Scriptural and Protestant principles which are embodied in its formularies, in saying that the bishops should either perform their duty faithfully in the sight of God and the Church, or lay down their office.—*The Rock*.

THE *Hull and Eastern Counties Herald* reports that the Rev. W. M. Statham, of Canonbury, has been down to Hull to speak in behalf of the two Liberal candidates, and in a leading article remarks:—"When Mr. Statham appeared upon the platform he received a no less cordial welcome than was given to the candidates, and some of his friends having commenced the familiar strain of 'Auld Lang Syne,' a great part of the audience took it up, and sang a verse of the old song with considerable fervour. When Mr. Statham rose the audience rose also, and gave him a most enthusiastic reception. Under the inspiration of the occasion, he delivered an address which thoroughly roused the fervour of his audience, sometimes almost beyond control. His denunciation of Tory policy, and especially of Lord Beaconsfield, and his panegyric of Mr. Gladstone, were very powerfully done, and the people could scarcely restrain themselves until Mr. Statham had closed his harangue. As he sat down he was greeted by repeated rounds of applause."



## THE NEW DECISION ON MILLINERS' BILLS.

(From the Spectator.)

THE decision of the Court of Appeal in the case of "Debenham v. Mellor" is so contrary to popular belief as to the state of the law upon the subject, and will so greatly alarm all tradesmen, except butchers and greengrocers, that it deserves more than a passing notice. Mrs. Mellor, the wife of a man in a respectable position (manager of a railway hotel at Bradford), ordered some articles of dress of Messrs. Debenham and Freebody upon credit, which were sent in to her and her husband's residence in the usual course. There was no contention that the dresses were extravagant, or unsuited to Mrs. Mellor's station, or over-charged, or objectionable in any way whatever. Indeed, Lord Justice Bramwell seems to have thought that the very vague word "necessaries" might have been fairly applied to them, and no question as to their price was so much as raised. Nevertheless, when the bill was sent in, the husband refused to pay for them, alleging, quite truly and conscientiously, as it would appear, that he had strictly forbidden his wife to buy anything upon his credit, that she had disobeyed his commands, and that consequently he should not pay for the dresses. He adhered to this decision, and Messrs. Debenham sued him for the money. The Court, however, decided that the husband was not liable, and Messrs. Debenham, whose business, with that of every other silk mercer, is attacked by the decision at the root, carried their plaint up to the Court of Appeal. There, however, three Judges—Lord Justice Bramwell, Lord Justice Baggallay, Lord Justice Thesiger—unanimously agreed, in two elaborately reasoned judgments, that the court below were right, and that if a husband prohibited his wife from pledging his credit, that prohibition ended his liability, even though it was privately given, and remained entirely unknown to the tradesman concerned. They fancy they are supplying goods to a wife, but are really supplying them to a *feme sole*, who happens to be exonerated by law from process for debt. For, be it observed, the exemption of the husband does not create a liability in the wife, the tradesman having, in fact, no legal debtor. Some little doubt was signified as to whether this decision would hold good against use and wont, that is, when the wife was sued by tradesmen whose bills the husband had previously habitually paid; but in the case of a "first order" to a tradesman the Judges were absolute, and their decision finally settles the law.

It is not too much to say that it threatens every tradesman in the country who does not deal in necessary eatables, about which also some little hesitation was expressed. All mercers, hosiers, bootmakers, furniture-dealers, jewellers, booksellers, and indeed all tradesmen who do not "send for orders," have been accustomed to think that up to a well understood though indefinite amount, varying with the station of the parties, the order of a wife living with her husband for goods bound that husband. They were aware, in some dim way, that they must not rely on such an order if absurdly extravagant, or if for articles out of the usual course, but must ask definite authority; and that a husband could, by public advertisement, put an end to his liability, but that he could do it by private arrangement with his wife without informing them or anybody else never, we venture to say, so much as entered their heads. Indeed, Messrs. Debenham and Freebody, who are, we suppose, extensive mercers of Wigmore-street, must have executed thousands of such orders, and certainly, had they even suspected the state of the law, would never have taken the case into Court, and so have warned every married swindler in London that he had a new opportunity open to him. He has only to give his wife a written order not to pledge his credit, and obtain an acknowledgment, and she may order what she pleases; for she as wife will not be liable, and he as husband, opposed on principles to credit dealings, will not be liable either. That is ominous news for jewellers, who are naturally the tradesmen most affected by swindlers, and we have the greatest difficulty in believing the decision commonly just. We can see its possible legality, because it is in accord with the ordinary principle that an agent cannot go beyond his written instructions; but we cannot, in the face alike of existing opinion and existing custom, see its justice. The wife is treated every day in all manner of disputes as the husband's agent, her action in that capacity has regulated bargains for centuries, and now all tradesmen are told that the presumption does not apply to their case, if the husband has secretly advertised himself out of the usual law. Lord Justice Bramwell says the tradesmen may charge ready money, there being neither custom nor convenience in favour of credit for ladies' dresses; but suppose the dresses have to be made up, and that a fair charge till the dress is completed is next to an impossibility. How is a bonnet made to order to be charged for until it is complete? Of course, a tradesman can ask, as the Judge suggests, if the lady has her husband's authority to order her clothes—and she cannot lie about it, for fear of the Act about obtaining money on false pretences—but so he can ask if she has her marriage-certificate to show, and he is about

as likely to put the one question as the other. His customers would regard the question as an affront. Laws, to be just, must recognise national matters as affecting contracts as well as other customary dealings. If the wife of a shipowner ordered a new brig out of her own head, she would be asked by the ship-builder for her husband's permission, without any sense on either side of insult, and so she would if she were buying land, but she cannot be asked when she is ordering her gown or her little daughters' frocks. Our manners forbid so open an assertion of the pecuniary dependence of the wife, even for articles of her personal convenience. The tradesman must and will take the risk, and the result of the decision will not be ready-money transactions, but a needless addition to prices, put on to cover the risk he now finds he has always incurred. We cannot but think that up to a reasonable amount the husband ought to be made to take the risk, too, always remembering that if he is really oppressed, he can publicly advertise that he will be oppressed no longer.

We quite admit, of course, the immense difficulty of the domestic problem, which Lord Justice Bramwell puts in the following words:—"It was said it was hard upon the tradesman, but it would be harder still upon the husband to lay upon him a burden of liability against his will, and from which he would be unable to relieve himself, except by public advertisement not to trust his wife." There can be no doubt that in all classes of society the wife occasionally ruins the husband by extravagance, and that among the lower classes the "tally" system, under which the wife buys in secret, promising to pay by instalments, and the husband is imprisoned for the debt, has become a gross oppression; but to deprive the wife of any right to pledge her husband's credit, and the tradesman of any redress against a compact which he has no reason to suspect, and practically no means of discovering without losing custom, is certainly not a fair remedy for the hardship.

In a letter to the Times Messrs. Debenham and Co. state that there will probably be an appeal to the House of Lords, and thus state the facts of the case: Mrs. Mellor, the defendant's wife, had a running account with us during more than two years. This account was, excepting the last portion now in dispute, paid at regular intervals within the limited period of credit we are in the habit of giving. The goods supplied were in part for the children's use, and generally such as a lady in her position must be provided with. The goods were for the most part sent by post or rail to the hotel at Bradford, and, being articles of daily wear, it is reasonable to suppose the husband was aware of the dealings. That, indeed, he was aware of them we believe is not disputed. It is no secret that we have brought this action against Mr. Mellor on behalf of our co-traders and in the interest of retail trade generally. We are most desirous, therefore, that the public, who are scarcely less interested than the trader, should be fully and accurately informed of the facts.

## EPITOME OF NEWS.

## DOMESTIC.

HER MAJESTY and the Princess Beatrice landed at Cherbourg on Friday, and slept on board the Royal yacht. They passed round Paris by railway shortly after two o'clock on Saturday morning on their way to Germany, and arrived at Baden-Baden at half-past three o'clock on the same afternoon, driving from the station in an open waggone. In accordance with Her Majesty's wishes, there was no public reception. Yesterday they proceeded to Darmstadt to attend the confirmation of two of the Queen's granddaughters.

Her Majesty the Queen, with Princess Beatrice, paid a visit on Monday afternoon to the cemetery at Baden-Baden, where Her Majesty placed immortelles upon the tomb of her half-sister, Princess Hohenlohe. The Queen and the Princess afterwards took a drive. The weather at Baden-Baden is reported to be very fine.

The Prince and Princess of Wales arrived at Brussels on Saturday afternoon, and were received by the King, with whom they proceeded to the Royal palace. On Monday they went on to Darmstadt.

The ancient Royal charities designated the Royal Maundy were distributed on Thursday in Whitehall Chapel, with the usual formalities, to sixty-one aged men and sixty-one aged women, the number of each sex corresponding with the age of Her Majesty. Prince Leopold and Princess Frederica of Hanover, were present at the ceremony.

It is announced in the Canadian newspapers that the Princess Louise has entirely recovered from the effects of her recent accident, but that she will not appear for some time in public.

Prince Leopold will, it is understood, sail direct to Canada on April 29, in the Allan steamship *Sarmatian*, the vessel that conveyed the Princess Louise across the Atlantic. From Canada he will proceed through the Western States of America, but, as at present contemplated, he will not extend his tour to San Francisco.

On Thursday the Empress Eugenie left

Chislehurst for Southampton, and embarked for Natal in the Union Company's steamer *German*.

The Queen has been pleased to confer the honour of Companion of the Civil Division of the Order of the Bath on Dr. William Farr.

Lord Beaconsfield left town on Thursday for Hatfield House, where he intends staying for a short time.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has left England with his family in order to spend a few weeks in the South of France.

It is reported that the condition of the health of Dr. Miller, vicar and rural dean of Greenwich, and canon of Rochester Cathedral, is such as to cause serious anxiety to his family and friends.

Lord and Lady Derby passed through London on Thursday on their way to Knowsley from Keston Lodge, Beckenham. In reply to a letter from Brighton calling attention to a statement made by Mr. Ashbury, the late M.P. for that town, his lordship says the story is an absurd fiction, and Lord Derby is surprised that any man in Mr. Ashbury's position should have thought it right to circulate without inquiry as to its truth.

The Swedish Arctic ship *Vega* put into Falmouth on Thursday evening, and Professor Nordenskjöld at once took train and went to London. On Friday Count Piper, the Swedish Ambassador, and Mr. Richter and Mr. Kirsebom, the Swedish Consul-General and Vice-Consul, who had been staying at Southsea, left for London to receive the Professor, who, during his stay in London, is the guest of Mr. Clements Markham.

The Duke of Edinburgh is on board an Admiralty yacht on the west coast of Ireland, inspecting the arrangements made by the Coastguard for the assistance of the distressed inhabitants of the islands.

Relating to injuries sustained by Mr. Cowen at the recent meeting in Newcastle, a local paper says that he is still confined to bed, and likely to be for some days yet. His medical advisers consider he is making very satisfactory progress towards recovery.

It is stated that Sir George Jenkinson is likely to be raised to the peerage with the title of Baron Hawkesbury.

The Duchess of Marlborough's fund amounts to £100,329, and the Mansion House fund to over £129,000. The Duchess, acknowledging a contribution of two thousand pounds from the London Mansion House Irish Distress Fund, says that the normal condition of the peasantry in the west of Ireland is an almost utter absence of clothing. Her Grace would gladly receive supplies of this description to the utmost possible extent. Another correspondent of the Lord Mayor writes that in Donegal bed-clothes or bedding are scarcely known.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying to a letter from Viscount Castlereagh, states that the Government have no desire to reverse or modify Mr. Gladstone's Irish Land Act, but on the contrary, are anxious to extend the benefits conferred by the Ulster Tenant Right Custom.

The fine weather of Good Friday drew many people into the country, and the tram-cars, omnibuses, railways, and steamers were all crowded. The parks and open spaces around London were full of visitors, and large numbers of persons went to the Crystal and Alexandra Palaces, where selections of sacred music were performed. The number of visitors to the Crystal Palace was 25,049. The services at St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, and the churches of the metropolis were well attended. Dean Stanley preached at the Chapel Royal in the morning, and in the afternoon at the Abbey.

The fine weather of Easter Monday, the first Bank holiday of the year, attracted enormous numbers to the various places of recreation and amusement. In London the streets, parks, and open spaces were thronged throughout the day, and in the evening the theatres and various places of amusement were well attended. It is stated that more drunkenness was observable than upon any general holiday for some time past. At the British Museum, National Gallery, and South Kensington Museum, the attendance, owing probably to the fine weather, fell greatly short of that of last year. At the Crystal Palace there were 51,944 persons; at the Alexandra Palace about 40,000. The railways carried vast numbers of people out of London. In addition to those who went to Brighton, the London and North-Western Company booked 11,000 excursionists, the Great Western 16,000, the Midland about 12,000, the South Eastern 30,000, and the Great Eastern 56,000. The Thames steamers, the tramways, and the other means of conveyance also carried large numbers of holiday-makers.

The Easter Monday Volunteer Review took place on a portion of the South Downs about midway between Brighton and the Sussex county town of Lewes. Fine weather favoured the spectacle, and about twenty thousand volunteers took part in the display. The troops were divided into two forces, one of which was massed at Lewes under Major-General Turner, and the other at Brighton, under Major-General Radcliffe. The sham fight lasted two hours, and is said to have been a creditable performance. An interesting feature in the day's proceedings was the employment of three captive balloons by Colonel Turner's force to signal

by electric telegram the movements of the enemy, while the outposts of the defenders were all connected by the telephone with the central division. The volunteers achieved a great triumph by the manner in which they marched past, and received great praise from the Duke of Cambridge and his staff. The whole length of the racecourse was crowded, and the Brighton police calculate that not fewer than 400,000 persons were on the Downs. The crowd, as a rule, were very orderly, but during the march past they broke into the racecourse on two or three occasions, and had to be forced off by the 16th Lancers, who aided the local police in keeping the ground.

The following are the average prices of British corn for the week ending March 27, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise:—Wheat, 47s. 3d.; barley, 34s. 5d.; oats, 22s. 10d. per imperial qr. Corresponding week last year:—Wheat, 40s. 8d.; barley, 33s. 0d.; oats, 20s. 8d.

The total number of live cattle and carcasses of fresh meat landed at Liverpool last week from the United States and Canada were as follows:—1,338 live cattle; 4,911 quarters of beef, 1,632 carcasses of mutton, and 580 dead pigs, making a larger supply of live stock and a smaller supply of fresh meat landed than in the previous week.

## FOREIGN.

The French Government have retorted upon the Russian for the withdrawal of Prince Orloff by giving General Chanzy "unlimited leave of absence" from St. Petersburg. The General will take his departure very shortly, leaving the Embassy in charge of a subordinate.

It has been officially announced at the Hague that the Queen of the Netherlands is en route.

According to a Berlin telegram the Czar, at a recent military parade, was amiable with the British Ambassador, shaking hands with him and others, but only gave a cold military salute to General Chanzy.

General Loris Melikoff is earning golden opinions by releasing innocent prisoners and alleviating the fate of the guilty. Hundreds of students arrested in the recent wholesale razzias have been set at liberty, and others detained in the terrible dungeons of St. Peter, have been recommended for more humane treatment. To acquaint himself with their condition, the General has himself visited the dread Penitentiary opposite the Winter Palace.

The Russian police have apprehended sixteen workmen in whose possession were three hand-presses and a bundle of Socialist proclamations. Serious defalcations have been discovered in the overland Custom House there, and in consequence all the officials, except two, have been suspended, pending an inquiry.

Bozkpuky and Pozovsky, two of the four Nihilists lately condemned to death by court-martial at Kieff, have been hanged. The same sentence passed upon Bogoslovsky and Rodionoff has been commuted—in the case of the former to fifteen years' hard labour in the mines, and in the case of the latter to six years' hard labour in a Government or penal factory, and both are afterwards to remain in Siberia for life.

Mr. Martin, Professor of International Law at St. Petersburg, in a lecture before the members of the Cronstadt Navy Club, declared the advance of Russia in Central Asia to be a calamity provoked by the rapine of individual tribes. He further expressed the opinion that a struggle with England would be a great misfortune, and demonstrated the necessity for a friendly solution of the Central Asian question.

The *Daily News* has intelligence regarding the Russian expedition in Central Asia, by a despatch from Teheran of last night's date. It is reported that at Tchikislar and Chatte preparations are singularly backward. The entire force is 2,000, and General Mouravieff commands provisionally. The despatch adds that the Turkomans refuse to pay the four years' taxes demanded by the Shah, and are blockading the Persian camp.

From Berlin comes the doubtful report that the Czar has permitted Prince Alexander to enlist five thousand Russian subjects in the Bulgarian military service.

It is stated in Berlin that a meeting between the Emperor William and the Czar will take place shortly.

The Emperor of Germany has sent another despatch to the Czar, dated the 26th, the text of which is as follows:—"I only received today, through General Schweinitz, the exact text of the toast proposed by you on the occasion of my birthday. I find in it the sentiments which have united us through long years, and contributed to maintain good relations between our countries and European peace, notwithstanding partial wars. Receive my heartfelt gratitude for those sentiments officially expressed, which will for ever remain engraven on the heart of your best friend, WILLIAM." The friendly wording of the latter part of this despatch attracts much attention in Berlin, and is taken as a sign of the most decided *rapprochement* between the two countries.

Count Hatzfeldt, the German Ambassador at Constantinople, has represented to Said Pasha the dangers which would accrue to Turkey if she were to delay coming to an arrangement with Greece, and added that Germany was agreed upon this question. The



Count has also declared at a meeting of the foreign Ambassadors held at Sir Henry Layard's residence, that the assassination of the Russian, Colonel Commeroff, was a matter of European concern. In reply to a memorandum of Sir Henry Layard on the subject, Sawas Pasha states that the Porte will appoint a fresh committee, composed of doctors nominated by the different embassies in Constantinople, and of other foreign medical men, to decide upon the mental condition of the prisoner.

There seems no hope for the Porte. Its financial condition is incurable. The decree which depreciated the value of Ottoman silver has been repealed; but money is so hopelessly scarce in the Imperial Treasury that Said Pasha, in desperation, has proposed to the Council of Ministers that, as the salaries of public functionaries had been reduced, so ought they to diminish the Sultan's Civil List, reduce the salaries of all the Palace nominees, and abolish the enormous pensions enjoyed by favourites and protégés of the Sultan. The proposition was, of course, opposed. Mahmoud Nedim Pasha, Minister of the Interior, and favourite of the Palace, we are told, vigorously combatted the proposal.

According to the Berlin correspondent of the *Standard*, Aleko Pasha has asked the East Roumelian Legislature to vote a loan of £3,000,000 for the immediate construction of a line from Bourgas to Philippopolis and Yamboli. The loan is to be guaranteed by a portion of the Customs and other receipts.

The Porte, desiring to restrict the activity of Midhat Pasha in inaugurating reforms in Syria, has taken from him two-thirds of his territory, and limited his administration to the vilayet of Damascus.

There appears to have been a mistake as to the ransom paid to the brigands for the release of Colonel Syngé. It was £1,100, not £11,000. The general opinion in Salonica is that had the negotiations been carried on quietly the brigands would have been satisfied with a third of that amount, and that the effect of sending three men-of-war was to attach too much importance to the affair, and raise Colonel Syngé's value in the eyes of his captors.

Strange news comes from Cyprus through a correspondent of the *Daily News*. He states that the Government has great difficulty in collecting the tithes. The peasants are being imprisoned, and their lands sold. The crops are looking well; that is so far satisfactory.

Chung How, the late Chinese Ambassador to Russia, has been arrested, stripped of his honours and titles, and held prisoner of the Board of Punishments.

It is stated in a Shanghai telegram that six official boards have decided that the Chinese Government should rather risk a war with Russia than agree to the stipulations of the Kulja Treaty.

It is stated by the *Cabul* correspondent of the *Daily News* that one scheme for the future government of Herat is that the city shall be declared independent under a responsible governor, supported by British influence. Mr. Griffin has announced that Candahar and Herat are to be separated in future from the Durand kingdom. The Bombay correspondent of the *Standard* tells us that Mr. Griffin has proclaimed the taking over by the British authorities of the administration of North and East Afghanistan; but the proclamation has not been favourably received. Evidently it is not regarded as a message of peace. The Sirdars of *Cabul*, it is added, are glad that Yakoub Khan will not return; but they nevertheless object to the separation of Candahar and Herat from Afghanistan.

Egypt is preparing for a war with Abyssinia, in which the latter country threatens to become the aggressor. King John has obtained a great victory over some rebel chiefs, and added their warrior subjects to his army. Egypt is fortifying two harbours in the Gulf of Aden.

The Anti-Third Term Committee has issued a call for a National Convention of Republicans opposed to a third Presidency of General Grant to meet at St. Louis on the 6th May next. It is denied that General Grant has withdrawn his candidature.

The relief ship *Constellation* sailed on Saturday, from New York for Dublin, with 1,346 barrels of potatoes, 675 of flour, 1,145 of cornmeal, and 150 of oatmeal, 59 cases of canned soups, and seven cases of clothing and shoes.

Mr. Ruskin has resumed the publication of "Fors Clavigera." He proposes to carry it forward, as he finds leisure, to the close of the eighth volume; and the complete summary and indices of the whole will form a ninth volume, to be issued with the closing letter.—*Academy*.

The whole of the third and popular edition, consisting of 2,500 copies, of Mr. George Barnett Smith's *Life of Gladstone* having been immediately sold, a fourth edition is now in course of rapid production, and will be ready in a few days. It is published by Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

The Rev. F. W. Kolbe, of the London Missionary Society, has prepared the MS. of an English-Herero dictionary. The Herero or Otji-Herero or Damara is the leading dialect in the Bantu class of African languages extending on the Eastern coast

from the Equator down to the Cape. Stanley thinks that the tribes on the Congo speak dialects very near akin to Herero, and the late Dr. Bleek had pointed out long ago the necessity of a special study of this language.

A site has at last been selected for the national monument to Lord Byron. Her Majesty has authorised its erection within the enclosure, behind Apsley House, known as Hamilton-place.

More than two hundred thousand copies of "The Financial Results of the Past and Present Government" have been issued by Messrs. Whittingham and Co., of Gracechurch-street. A second canvassing slip, entitled, "The Growth of Expenditure," is announced by the same firm.

Mr. Matthew Arnold says he has not received a hundred pounds from America, although his books have been much reprinted there.

Macniven and Wallace, Edinburgh, announce for publication a series of works, by well-known religious writers, to be entitled "The Household Library of Exposition," and to consist of expository lectures on short books and connected passages of Scripture. The first volume, "The Life of David as Reflected in his Psalms," by the Rev. Dr. MacLaren, Manchester, will be ready in April. They also announce two new volumes of their cabinet of biography—"Great Scholars"—Buchanan, Bentley, Porson, &c., by G. Henry James Nicoll, and "Prince Albert," by J. C. Watt.

A PENNY TESTAMENT!—Mr. Elliot Stock is about to issue a pocket English Testament, with copious notes, references, and introductions, three maps, and twenty-four illustrations, for one penny. The object of the issue of the Sacred Book at this exceptionally low price is to give Christian people the opportunity of circulating the Word of God throughout the length and breadth of the land at the slightest possible cost.

#### THE GENERAL ELECTION.

##### THE ROMAN CATHOLIC VOTE.

The *Weekly Register* and *Catholic Standard* says: "According to the statistics recently put forward as to the proportion of Catholics numbered among the inhabitants of the metropolis, it is confidently stated that the most extensively-populated Catholic districts are in the neighbourhood of the Commercial-road, at the East-end of the town, where one parish alone contains 13,000—next to this being Spitalfields with 9,000, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields and the district of the Italian Church in Hatton-garden, Poplar, Spanish-place, Soho, and Tower-hill, each having 6,000, Islington and Warwick-street, Golden-square, numbering 5,000 respectively. St. Mary's, Westminster; St. John's, Lisson-grove; Ogle-street, Fitzroy-square; Chelsea and Brompton, are everyone credited, roughly speaking, with 4,500. Somers-town has 3,500, Hammer-smith 2,200, Pimlico the same number. Whitechapel 2,100, Highgate 1,700, Clerkenwell 1,500, Bayswater 4,000, Notting-hill 3,500, Marylebone 3,500, Stratford 3,500, Maiden-lane (Covent-garden) 3,500, Wapping 3,500, Fulham 6,600, Ely-place (Holborn) 3,500, Hoxton 3,000, Barking-road, E., 3,000, Bow 3,000, Haverstock-hill, 2,800, Kensington 2,800, Bunhill-row 2,500, Holloway 2,500, Kentish-town 1,200—not Catholic voters, but Catholic population." The editor, while calling upon "every intelligent Catholic elector," to vote according to the dictates of his conscience, and his own independent judgment, significantly refers to the fact that "at the State banquet given by the Prime Minister upon the eve of the opening of the present Session of Parliament the Duke of Norfolk, the Marquis of Bute, the Earl of Denbigh, and Lord Howard of Glossop, were all of them numbered among the guests of the Earl of Beaconsfield;" that "immediately before the close of a crowded meeting, convened at the Guildhall Tavern by the Conservative candidates for the representation of the City of London, on Monday week, Mr. Dillon Boylan announced, amid great cheering, that Mr. Alderman Cotton, Mr. Alderman Fowler, and Mr. John Gellibrand Hubbard would have the entire support, as a body, of the Catholics;" and that the largest Roman Catholic landowner in Lancashire, Mr. Thomas Weld-Blundell, "has caused it to be intimated to his tenants that he has pledged himself to support the two Conservative candidates in South-West Lancashire, Mr. Secretary Cross and Colonel Blackburne."

The *Irishman* (Roman Catholic) says: "The Irish in the different constituencies of England will have before this seen, by the manifesto that has been issued, the principle that should guide them in recording their votes at the General Election. The undying hostility of Lord Beaconsfield to every Irish interest and every Irish sentiment, his fixed determination to govern Ireland by coercion and the bayonets of armed police and soldiers, makes it incumbent upon the Irish in England to do their best to wrest from the hands of this man the power of judicially murdering our countrymen at home. This White-chapel Jew adventurer shows that his hatred of everything Irish and Catholic increases only as years go on. The real reason of the dissolution of Parliament was the fear of this man to endeavour to re-enact the Coercion Laws, which expire in June next, before ap-

pealing to the country, and the hope that, if by the result of the election he is given a majority, he will have the satisfaction of renewing the Coercion Acts, not even in their present form, but with increased severity. Let, however, Irishmen in England stick together, and they will drive from power the inveterate enemy of their country."

The *Universe* (Roman Catholic) says: "During Mr. Gladstone's rule the country was peaceful and prosperous; during Lord Beaconsfield's ascendancy, to use his own words, in the councils of England, the country has hungered and thirsted for glory and war, and has had its bellyful of both. After all feasts that are not temperance feasts, the inevitable headache, and too often heartache, follow. The English people are now suffering in this way from an over-sufficiency of glory policy, and without condemning what Lord Beaconsfield has done, are hankering for the happy, if inglorious, days when the horn of plenty was showered upon them by Mr. Gladstone's pacific policy."

The *Dublin Weekly News* (Roman Catholic) says: "In some constituencies in the North the fight will be confined to Whigs and Tories. We counsel patriotic electors, in such a case, to vote against the Tory, in order to avenge the infamous conduct of Lord Beaconsfield in raising a false cry against the Home Rule cause, for the purpose of inflaming English passion against Ireland and her people."

#### WOMEN AND THE ELECTIONS.

THERE will be a few heart-burnings among the women of England in this time of political excitement; almost certainly some will feel that a great wrong is done to them in the fact that their only part is to stand aside and watch the struggle, while many, even of those who have not yet been educated to the Women's Rights point of view, will experience some regret that they are practically helpless when the good cause needs help so much. It is probable, too, that all women who are householders and owners of property will feel that either too much or too little has been given them, since they have power to vote at municipal and School Board elections, but are not yet considered worthy to be trusted with votes when the contest is a Parliamentary one. But whatever they may feel of regret or gratitude, the fact remains the same, that the women have no part nor lot in the matter which is, to a greater or less extent, agitating the mind of almost every man in the kingdom. What may the women do? They cannot even solace themselves, as their foremothers did in the days of Queen Anne; for then the patching of ladies' faces was fashionable, and those dames who wished the Whigs success wore a black patch on the right cheek, those who were for the Tories had the patch on the left, while those who had divided hearts and minds showed their fairness and impartiality by decorating both cheeks! Even that privilege is denied us in these days. It is true that coloured ribbons may still be bought and worn, but this is an age in which very few women can be satisfied with ribbons, or any thing else that is flimsy; and there are thousands of women who are saying, "Cannot I do something? Surely I can be of some use! What am I to do in this crisis?"

Crowds of happy women will reply "We can rest and be thankful." After all there is that side of the question to consider, and it will do us no harm to look at it. "It is good to be in the quiet home out of reach of the turmoil and strife. We do not care for fighting, but cry, 'Give peace in our time.' We are not strong enough for all the excitement and activity of this election; and are content to wish that God will speed the right, perhaps without troubling ourselves greatly to discover on which side the right is." But there are hosts of eager women who look at the matter very differently. They cannot be other than intensely interested in the struggle, although they may be only spectators. They have made up their minds as to the right, and know perfectly on which side they are, and it frets them a little, that where they would fain do much they can do so little. But they need to be reminded that they have a part to take in the fight; for no woman's influence or opinion is useless. A large proportion of the world's work is done quietly and out of sight; but it is none the less necessary, and possibly it is all the more effective. No one can read that which is written between the lines of the history of our nation without understanding that if the English women of long ago had not the privilege of being enfranchised, they yet held a power which went as far. And that power of persuasive pleading is still the birth-right of every woman,—only let us be sure that we do not waste words in a bad cause. Nor are even words the chief means of helping those around us; it is the quiet persistent influence of a woman's life that will tell the most upon that which she regards as the right.

And let the women who have boys remember that to them it is given to train the voters of the future. Some twelve years ago a candidate sought to represent a borough, who did not succeed very well with the men, but who had an immense following of boys; and when he announced publicly the number of hands held up in his favour, there was a scornful laugh on account of the remark which some one made upon the size of the

said hands. But the hands are larger now. The boys and youths of that crowd are men with votes to-day, and their favourite will probably occupy a very different position in consequence. In thousands of Christian homes there are boys catching up the songs that are sung in the streets, and joining in the election cries, for fun, and nothing else. But these boys are receiving impressions to-day which may remain with them until it is their turn to vote. It is worth taking a little trouble to secure the suffrages of the boys on behalf of that which is right; and who can do this but the women whom now they love and revere, specially the mothers? It is for them to make young England hate war and love peace, despise shams and honour truth. It is for them to direct the thoughts and opinions of those who, in a few years, will have all the power. Could a better opportunity for doing this be than that which is afforded by the elections?

And when it is all over, there will be a great need of women with steady heads and hopeful hearts, for there are going to be some defeats and disappointments of course. "My husband, being on Mr. —'s committee, scarcely had an hour at home for more than a week," said a lady, speaking of one of the recent contests. "He worked so hard that I almost feared his strength would not last until the end, but it did. We all sat up on the night of the election waiting for the result. He stayed at the Town Hall until the numbers were declared; and when we heard his foot upon the steps we knew how it had gone. We could tell by the very way in which he used the latch-key that our side had lost. But then it was my turn. He looked ten years older that night, but good nursing and the comforts of his home have wrought wonders for him, and he is quite ready to try again now; and this time we shall succeed." —MARIANNE FARNINGHAM in the *Christian World*.

#### GLEANINGS.

THE road to matrimony is a bridal path. There is something saddening about a pair of scissors. Alas! they meet but to sever.

RIVALS FOR THE ELECTION ROAD.—Jingo, Lingo, and Stingo.—*Punch*.

THE NEW CORRUPT PRACTICE.—Should go out with the Cab-in-it that brought it in.—*Punch*.

Why is the Premier like a knowing woman? Because he knows there is no secret for getting his own way like a good cry.—*Punch*. A child being asked what were the three great feasts of the Jews promptly, and not unnaturally, replied, "Breakfast, dinner, and supper."

A clergyman who was annoyed by the squeaking shoes of his parishioners remarked that some people had "too much music in their soles."

"KEEPING THE WORD OF PROMISE TO THE EAR."—Lord B. promised us "Conveyancing Reform" in the Queen's Speech. His Government have kept the promise—in the legalisation of Conveyances at Elections' Act.—*Punch*.

A washerwoman, a regular and attentive listener at church, was commended by her pastor. "Yes," she said, "after my hard week's work is done I get so rested to come to church and sit and think about nothin'!"

A bald-headed professor, reproving a youth for the exercise of his fists, said very severely, "We fight with our heads at this college." The young man reflected for a moment, and then replied calmly, "Ah, I see; and you have butted all your hair off."

"I wonder how the world will get along without me when I am gone?" said a conceited man. "Well," responded a friend, "I'll tell you how you can get an idea of it. You just go and stick the point of a needle in the ocean, and then withdraw it, and see how much it's missed!"

A three-year-old little girl at Rochester, N.Y., was taught to close her evening prayer, during the temporary absence of her father, with, "And please watch over my papa." It sounded very sweet, but the mother's amazement may be imagined when the child added, "And you'd better keep an eye on mamma, too."

ELECTION SQUIBS.—The following is suggested as an epitaph for the gravestone over the sepulchre in which the dry bones of the Tory Government are about to be interred without hope of resurrection:—

Here lies the Government of "light and leading."

It lived for years by blustering and bleeding; It managed constantly to pay its way By borrowing money day by day; Of beer begotten, it of water died, And when 'twas buried no patriot cried.

A nursery rhyme for young Liberals is as follows:—

Sing a song of fivepence, Income Tax, you know; Gladstone would have saved it years and years ago;

When the Budget's opened, eight millions run away;

Isn't this a pretty bill for householders to pay? The merchant in the counting-house saved a little money;

Probate Duty's increased (doesn't it sound funny?)—

When he leaves his property, this is what is meant.

Down pops Sir Stafford and nips off half per cent.

A lady was at work on a certain street during the late School Board elections. She



came to No. 41, which was opened by a maid. "I wish to speak to Mr. Jones about his vote for the School Board," said the lady. "Oh, ma'am, Mr. Jones is out; and it ain't no use your seeing him anyhow. We don't subscribe to them; we only subscribe to the Idiot Asylum!" answered the maid. And the door was slammed in the canvasser's face.

The New York Observer received this from a correspondent:—"I saw a droll misprint in a paper last week, 'Ritualism promptly relieved and cured by a few applications of Hodge's Liniment.' The printers had put 'Ritualism' for 'Rheumatism.'" The editor comments in this way: "Still, we believe that Dr. Hodge's Systematic Theology, here called Liniment, if well rubbed in and taken internally, also will cure the worst attacks of Ritualism. At least, there would be no harm in trying the experiment."

## Notes of the Free Churches.

### CONGREGATIONAL.

— The Rev. W. E. Darby, of Bath, has accepted the pastorate of Burngrove Church, Sheffield.

— The Rev. Henry Mathews has been elected a member of the Drighlington School Board, Yorks.

— Mr. T. M. Mundie, of New College, has accepted an invitation to the pastorate of the church at Kentish Town, vacant by the death of the late Dr. Fleming.

— The Rev. Richard Bulmer, of Whithy, has accepted the pastorate of the church at Middleton-road, Dalton, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. S. G. Matthews.

— A service of sacred song, entitled "Ere," was given by the choir in the church at Harwich; the connective readings by the pastor, the Rev. R. Wyatt. The proceeds were presented to the organ fund.

— The Rev. G. D. Bird, who has accepted the pastorate of the church at Chalford-on-the-Hill, on the occasion of leaving Frampton Cotterell, was presented on Friday with an illuminated album and a purse containing £10.

— The thirteenth anniversary of the chapel at Saxmundham was held on Friday last. In the afternoon a sermon was preached by the Rev. R. F. Bracey, of Wickham Market. A public tea was held, and a meeting afterwards, presided over by Mr. G. Clarke, R.N. Addresses were delivered by the Revs. J. McMillan, M. Ockelford (the pastor), and S. Pendered.

— The Rev. George Cakebread, having resigned the pastorate of Greenwich-road Church, was presented, on the 24th ult., by some of the friends, with a purse containing nearly £30, as a token of their appreciation of his services and the high esteem in which he is held. During his two years' pastorate over £1,000 have been expended upon the chapel, and nearly £900 have been raised towards it.

— The Rev. J. T. Higgins received a public recognition on the 24th ult., as pastor of the church at Handbridge, Chester. The Revs. T. Robinson, F. Barnes, P. W. Darnton, and B. W. Lloyd took part in the proceedings. This newly-formed church gives hopeful indications of success. The building of a new chapel and class-rooms, both very much needed, it is expected will be accomplished during the coming summer.

— The Rev. W. Cuthbertson, B.A., of Bishop's Stortford, ex-chairman of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, has accepted the cordial invitation to the pastorate of the church at Markham-square, Chelsea, lately rendered vacant by the appointment of the Rev. Andrew Mearns to the secretariat of the London Congregational Union. Mr. Cuthbertson will commence his ministry at Markham-square on the first Sunday in May.

— The Rev. S. Pearson, at the recent assembly at Liverpool of the English Congregational Union of North Wales, read an address on "Colportage as a Subsidiary Agency in the Work of Evangelisation," and moved that the Executive Committee be requested to take the subject into their most earnest consideration, with a view to the adoption of this agency in North Wales. This was seconded by the Rev. D. Oliver (Holywell), and carried.

— The Rev. J. McMillan having resigned his charge at Blackford-bridge, Bury, preached his farewell sermon on the 21st ult. to a crowded congregation. On Tuesday evening a *conversazione* was held in the schoolroom. During the evening the rev. gentleman was presented by the church and congregation with a handsome secretary, as a token of their affection. Mr. Councillor Lucas also presented the rev. gentleman with a purse of gold on behalf of the Mayor and other friends connected with the Bury churches, as a token of their esteem.

— The members of the church and congregation at Hoylake having resolved to extinguish, during the present year, the debt remaining on their place of worship, two concerts have recently been given in furtherance of this effort, each of which was, in every respect, highly satisfactory and successful. Two lectures also have been delivered for the same object, one on "The Wit and Wisdom of Sydney Smith," by the Rev. F. G. Collier, and another, "An Evening with Samuel Pepys," by the Rev. E. G. Soper, B.A., the pastor of the church.

— About four years since, the Rev. J. Cockin resigned his connection with the church at Harwich to proceed as a missionary to Hope Fountain, South Africa, where he has laboured very earnestly. Owing to signs of trouble amongst the tribes, a conference was called, and Mr. Cockin, with his wife and child, proceeded to the place selected. On arriving at his destination, he was seized with fever, and died on the 3rd of February, after only three days' illness. The news of his death caused great grief to his relatives at Harwich, and was feelingly referred to by the Rev. R. Wyatt on Sunday last.

— The Congregationalists of Wellingborough have just added to their previous provision for Sunday-school and other purposes, by erecting a commodious building in a new and rapidly-increasing part of the town. Besides being used as a Sunday-school, the new room will be available for religious services, mothers' meetings, and kindred purposes. A site

has been procured for the erection of a church, should the growth of the neighbourhood warrant such a step. Successful opening services were conducted last week, the Revs. W. J. Woods, B.A., J. M. Watson, and J. Brown, B.A., being the preachers.

— At the Mission-hall, Sanning-hill, services were held on Friday. A sermon was preached in the afternoon to a large congregation by the Rev. Thos. Penrose, of Reading. After the tea a crowded meeting was held; the chair was taken by Mr. T. James, of Egham, and addresses were given by Revs. T. Penrose, William C. Attwell (the minister), and Messrs. Taylor, Gubbins, Laird, Loughurst, Calder, and Serle. At this meeting it was announced that, in consequence of the present hall, which is a temporary one, being far too small, a large and permanent building will be erected on an excellent site which has been secured for the purpose.

— The anniversary services of London-street Sunday-school, Basingstoke, took place last week. On Sunday, March 21, sermons were preached by the Rev. H. H. Carlisle. On Friday a breakfast was given to the scholars, and in the afternoon a public tea was held, which was very largely attended. At the meeting held afterwards the chair was taken by the pastor, Rev. H. Barron, and addresses on Sunday-school topics were given by Dr. Kennedy Moore (of Southsea), Revs. J. Corbin, J. Matthews, W. H. Hines, and the superintendent, Mr. Jackson. The report read by the secretary showed the school to be in a prosperous condition, including 486 scholars.

— The fifth season of the "Services of Song" for the working classes, in connection with Park Chapel, Camden Town, has just been brought to a close, the last being given on the 24th March, when the Rev. F. Tucker presided, and gave an interesting and impressive address. The chapel was quite filled with an attentive audience, consisting largely of the working classes. The interest in the neighbourhood has not at all declined, the attendance during the winter now closed having been fully sustained. The other services, except one, have been conducted by the pastor (Rev. J. C. Harrison). The music is rendered by a special choir of about 35 voices. The services have generally been compiled expressly by the organist, who will be happy to give information to any who wish to carry out similar arrangements elsewhere.

— On Monday a tea-meeting was held at the Union Chapel, Combe-down, near Bath, to commemorate the pastor's (Rev. T. Annelly) silver wedding with his flock, he having completed his 25th ministerial year. Thos. Jeeves, Esq., who presided over a meeting afterwards held, presented Mr. Annelly with a purse containing 30 guineas, contributed by the congregation and friends. Addresses were delivered by the Revs. C. G. Acworth (vicar of the parish), F. W. Fowler (chaplain of the workhouse), F. Beckley (Lady Huntingdon's), H. Quick (Congregational), and the pastor; also by Messrs. Titley, Brookes, and Harrill. Letters from the Revs. G. W. Newham (late vicar of Combe Down) and J. B. Atkinson (vicar of Tickenham) expressive of regret at not being able to be present, were read at the meeting. A selection of sacred music was given by the choir, the son of the pastor presiding at the organ.

— The foundation-stone of a new chapel for the congregation under the pastorate of the Rev. E. Gough, at Barrowford, near Burnley, was laid on the 27th ult., by W. Armitage, Esq., of Altrincham, who presented £25 to the Building Fund. The Rev. J. A. McDougall delivered an address on the "Progress of Nonconformity and Nonconformist Churches." The Revs. G. Gill and S. Harper (Wesleyan) took part in the proceedings. In the evening a public meeting was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, kindly lent for the occasion, under the presidency of W. Tunstall, Esq., J.P. (Wesleyan), who has been a liberal contributor to the fund. The meeting, which was well attended, was addressed by the Revs. C. Williams (Baptist), J. T. Shawcross, W. M. Westerbly, J. Thompson, and Mr. Eli Higham. After expenses are paid £100 will be added to the fund as a result of the day's services. The chapel is to cost £3,500, towards which about £1,600 has been raised.

— The Rev. R. W. MacAll has engaged the Elysée Montmartre, Paris, for a weekly series of religious addresses, having pledged himself to the authorities that religious controversies and political allusions should be scrupulously avoided. The first meeting, attended by 2,000 persons, mostly of the working-class of the Montmartre quarter, was addressed by M. de Pressensé and M. Durand Daugier. The *Free Church of Scotland Record* for April refers to a movement which is now in progress in connection with this mission work:—"A pastor will attach himself to one station in particular, and will conduct a Bible-class, and in other ways will care for those who are no longer inquirers, but who, having received the truth, need to be further instructed in Divine things. The want of supplementary instruction and oversight has for some time been felt. Mr. MacAll's meetings being necessarily mainly evangelistic in their character. The arrangements now being made will give a measure of completeness to the mission operations."

— A meeting was held in the Altrincham Church on the 16th ult., to make a presentation to the Rev. C. Aylard and his wife, on the occasion of his retiring from the pastorate at the close of 12 years' labour. The testimonial consisted of a black marble timepiece and side bronzes, a purse containing £50, and a suitably bound, illuminated address from the church, congregation, and friends of various denominations. Four volumes of books from the teachers of the Sunday-school, and a silver tea-urn from the Young Men's Bible-class. W. Armitage, Esq., J.P., presided.

— The Rev. J. Baldwin Brown preached on the 22nd ult., at Great George-street Chapel, Liverpool, the annual sermon on behalf of the English Congregational Union of North Wales. In his concluding remarks the preacher said that the great Evangelical movement of the last century had laid more hold upon Wales than upon any other people, where it had had a freer course. Among the results of that movement had been the shutting up of one half of the Welsh gables, and if his hearers would help the Union on whose behalf he was pleading, they would be doing something to hasten the time when the other half would be closed also. The English language was rapidly spreading in some districts of North Wales, not merely because the young people were acquiring it, but because of the number of English settlers. He knew of a colony of Englishmen in North Wales who for more than ten years had not had an opportunity

of receiving Christian teaching, and who were sinking into the saddest vices. The North Wales Union was seeking and reclaiming such, and he hoped that Liverpool, which in so many ways is closely connected with the Principality, would give a generous response to his appeal for a work which he knew has been carried on systematically, and, he would add, intelligently.

— An interesting and impressive service was held on Monday evening, March 22, in connection with the recognition of the Rev. E. R. Barrett, B.A. (late of the London Missionary Society at Shanghai, China), as pastor of the London-road Congregational Church, Leicester. Mr. Alderman Chambers, chairman of the Leicester and Rutland Congregational Union, presided, and the meeting was opened by the Rev. D. Heath (Methodist New Connexion), who read the Scriptures and offered prayer, after which Mr. Carnall, senior deacon, gave a concise account of the previous history of the church, and stated, in a feeling manner, how the church had been led to offer Mr. Barrett a unanimous invitation to the pastorate. To this Mr. Barrett replied in suitable terms, referring to the painful necessity that had compelled him reluctantly to abandon the missionary work to which he had wished to devote his life, at the same time stating the reasons that had led him to accept the invitation to the pastorate of the church. Short addresses were given by the Revs. J. Morley Wright and W. Evans (Baptist), as representing the Nonconformist churches of the town, and by the Revs. J. Thomas and E. R. Palmer, M.A., both lately of Shanghai, as representing Mr. Barrett's former sphere of work; after which prayer was offered by Rev. G. Snashall, B.A., for the Divine blessing on the union of pastor and people. The service, which was largely attended, and was of a most warm and united character, was brought to a close by two very earnest and impressive addresses—one to the church, on its duties and responsibilities, by Rev. S. B. Handley, of Stafford, and the other to the pastor, on the pastoral office, by Rev. G. J. Barrett, B.A., of Norwich, brother of the pastor. On Tuesday evening a sermon was preached by the Rev. Alexander McLaren, D.D., of Manchester, the devotional services being conducted by the Rev. J. Williamson, M.A.

### BAPTIST.

— One of the features of the forthcoming spring gatherings connected with the Baptist Union will be the reception of a special deputation from the Australian Association.

— The annual meeting at Milford, Hants, was held on Friday last, when addresses were delivered by the Revs. J. Collins, W. H. Payne, J. Thompson, and T. Evans, the pastor.

— On Monday last, at Great Missenden, Bucks, a successful tea and public meeting were held, when Mr. Arthur Sowerby, of Regent's-park College, was welcomed as the new superintendent of the church.

— A communication just received from the Rev. Thomas Martin, missionary at Backergunge, states that in that district of India alone no less than 56 persons have been baptized and added to the churches during the past year.

— A service of song, entitled "Elijah," was given to a large audience on Monday last, at Moatham, Derbyshire. The connective readings were given by the pastor, the Rev. E. Yemm. The proceeds were devoted to the chapel fund.

— The annual public tea in connection with the church at Keyworth was held on Monday. In the evening the choir, under the leadership of Mr. Joseph Wilders, gave their annual sacred concert. The collection made at the close was in aid of the "Children's Clothing Club."

— At the annual members' meeting of the church at Eye, Suffolk, recently held under the presidency of the pastor, Rev. W. W. Haines, a most encouraging report of the various agencies in connection with the church was given, and a resolution adopted thanking God for the restoration of the pastor's health.

— The fifty-sixth anniversary of the Sunday-school at Waltham Abbey Chapel was celebrated on Friday. Mr. Lovatt occupied the chair. Mr. Hicks led the devotions, and the Revs. G. T. Edgley, F. M. Smith, D. Russell, W. Townsend, and W. Jackson gave addresses. The report indicated a pleasing state of prosperity.

— The sixth anniversary of the pastor's settlement at Great Sampford, Essex, was held on Good Friday. The Rev. E. Hamilton, of Thaxted, Independent, preached a sermon in the afternoon. In the evening, after a public tea, addresses were given by the chairman, Mr. Peter Cowell, and the Revs. J. C. Houchin, Stambourne, and others.

— The special appeal to the churches in reference to the deficit threatening the close of the Missionary Society's financial year has hitherto borne encouraging fruit, and it is hoped that by the 10th inst.—to which date, owing to the elections, the books are to be kept open—a considerable sum in liquidation of the amount will have been contributed.

— Miss Fielde, a missionary under the American Baptist Board, at Swatow, China, has about twenty Bible women whom she has taught, and sends out two by two into hundreds of heathen villages. Five years ago most of these women were ignorant, superstitious heathen; to-day they are earnest, intelligent Bible women. Such is the transforming power of the Gospel.

— On Good Friday very successful meetings were held at St. James's Chapel, Sutton. In the afternoon, at 3 p.m., Rev. David Thomas, of Long Sutton, preached a sermon from Genesis v. 24, after which a public tea was provided, to which a large number sat down; and in the evening the Rev. Mr. Thomas delivered his popular lecture on "Happy Lives, and How to Make Them."

— The public recognition of the Rev. S. H. Pirks, late of Ramsey, Hants, as pastor of the Centenary Church, March, Cambs, took place on Tuesday, the 23rd ult. In the afternoon a goodly number of friends assembled to tea, and in the evening a public meeting was held, presided over by Robert Dabham, Esq. Addresses were delivered by Revs. E. Forman, J. L. James, H. B. Robinson, and others.

— On Friday a tea and public meeting were held in connection with the church at Thorpe-le-Stoke, Essex. Addresses were given by the Rev. H. M. Horton, of Walton-on-the-Naze (Congregationalist), Mr. Burling, one of the deacons, and others. During

the evening a purse of money was presented by Mr. Burling, in the name of a few friends, to Mr. Hadler for the purchase of a timepiece as a token of esteem.

— The lease of Bond-street Chapel, Birmingham, which building has been but little used for some time past, owing to the adverse circumstances in which the church meeting at that place have been placed, has been secured by the friends and supporters of the cause at Great King-street, known as the People's Chapel. After cleaning and repairs, the building will be once more opened for worship. The cause at Bond-street has existed since 1783.

— On Friday the 329th anniversary was celebrated at Eythorne, Kent, and recognition services held in connection with the settlement of the Rev. G. Stanley, late of Whitstable. A sermon was preached in the afternoon by the Rev. W. H. Burton, of Dalston, after which from 400 to 500 friends sat down to tea. At 6 o'clock a large congregation met in the chapel, when W. Harvey, Esq., senior deacon, presided, and addresses were delivered by various ministers.

— The church and congregation worshipping at Victoria-street, Small Heath, Birmingham, held a social tea and public meeting on Thursday, the 25th ult., to celebrate the birthday of the pastor, Rev. C. Joseph, and to express the satisfaction felt at his consent to continue his ministry there, after having received an invitation to a church in Northamptonshire. Mr. J. Dowse, the elder, presided at the meeting, and on behalf of the subscribers presented the pastor with an oak library table and chair.

— The first anniversary of the settlement of the pastor, Mr. C. Hewitt, at Burwell, Cambs, was held on Friday, March 26. A public tea was provided in the British School at five o'clock, and at seven a public meeting was conducted in the chapel, when appropriate addresses were delivered by Revs. G. W. Hickson, W. Hall (Congregationalist), and the pastor. The chair was taken by Mr. A. Dawson, a deacon of the church. The meetings were well attended, and the collections realised £9 1s.

— The Rev. J. J. Irving having resigned the pastorate of the church at Swadlingcote, near Burton-on-Trent, some of his friends decided to present him with a testimonial. A meeting was therefore held at Midway on the 22nd ult., and after an excellent tea, the chair was taken by Mr. J. Brooks, and addresses delivered by the Revs. J. Askew and J. T. Owens, of Burton, and others. During the meeting a purse containing 20 sovereigns was presented to Mr. Irving by Mr. Woodrow in the name of more than 170 friends of all denominations who had subscribed to it.

— Interesting and numerous attended services were held on Friday at Curry Mallett, near Hatch Beauchamp. The Rev. R. Henry, of Stoke-under-Ham, preached in the afternoon from Acts viii. 35. A public tea followed. In the evening Bradbury's cantata, "Esher, the Beautiful Queen," was rendered by the Hatch Beauchamp and Curry Mallett Choral Society, assisted by the Rev. J. Compton and other friends from the neighbourhood. The readings were given by the Rev. W. P. Duke, and the performance was conducted by the Rev. E. Curtis, pastor.

— The anniversary services of the opening of the tabernacle at Chalford, Gloucester, were held on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. The Rev. J. Bloomfield, of Gloucester, preached on Friday at three o'clock. A public tea followed, at which a large number sat down. In the evening a musical entertainment was given by the tabernacle choir. Mr. W. Dangerfield took the chair on the occasion, and Mr. Bloomfield gave a stirring address, the pastor (Rev. D. R. Morgan) reading the report. On Easter Sunday the Rev. D. R. Morgan preached morning and evening, when the collections were larger than usual.

— Recognition services in connection with the settlement of the Rev. Harry Abraham, as pastor of the Baptist church at Lumb, Lancashire, were held on Friday, March 26th. The first meeting was held in the chapel, at three o'clock, under the presidency of the Rev. P. Prout, of Haslingden, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. J. Howe, of Waterbarn, on "The Duty of the Church to the Pastor," and by the Rev. J. Blake, of Darwen, on "The Duty of the Pastor to the Church." A tea-meeting at four o'clock was attended by about 400 persons. The evening meeting was addressed by Revs. D. C. Chapman, W. Gay, W. L. Giles, and others.

— Services in celebration of the ninety-fifth anniversary of Bow Chapel were held on Sunday, the 21st ult., when sermons were preached—in the morning by the Rev. W. Cuff, of Shoreditch Tabernacle, and in the evening by the Rev. V. Charlesworth, master of the Stockwell Orphanage. The tea and public meeting were held on the 24th, under the presidency of W. Cook, Esq. Addresses were given by the Revs. J. M. Erskine (Presbyterian),—Burton, and other friends; and the pastor (the Rev. G. T. Edgley) gave a brief report of the year's work, which showed a substantial reduction in the chapel debt, and satisfactory progress in the various societies and agencies in connection with the church.

— On Wednesday, March 10, recognition services were held in connection with the settlement of the Rev. J. J. Knight, of the Pastor's College, at Circus Chapel, Bradford-street, Birmingham. A large congregation assembled in the afternoon to hear a sermon by the Rev. C. Spurgeon, of Greenwich. He was, however, prevented from being present through illness, and the Rev. H. Platten, of Graham-street, kindly took his place. Nearly 200 sat down to tea afterwards. A large congregation assembled in the evening, when Thos. Adams, Esq., took the chair. The secretary of the church gave an account of the circumstances leading to the settlement. Mr. Knight replied, and addresses were delivered by the Revs. E. C. Pike to the pastor, J. J. Brown, and others.

— On Tuesday, March 21, a tea and public meeting were held at Mina-road Gospel Mission, when the chair was taken by Mr. Bowker (elder of Mr. Spurgeon's Tabernacle), and the meeting addressed by Mr. Parnment (Open-air Mission), Mr. Nachin and Mr. Sage (missionaries to Christian Jews), Mr. Chamberlain (evangelist of the Tabernacle), A. Ross, Esq., Mr. White, and Mr. Briggs, president of the mission. Several solos were beautifully rendered by Mr. Chamberlain at intervals during the meeting. The mission had its origin in a large Young Men's Bible-class, held at Maze-pond Chapel, and presided over by Mr. Briggs, who has since become president of the mission. The class took up open-air preaching for two summers, at the expiration of which time—viz., last September—



the hall was secured on the joint responsibility of the president and vice-president. It is unconnected with any church or society, but is doing a great amount of good in the immediate neighbourhood.

The appointment of Mr. Sampson, of Folkestone, to the secretariat of the Baptist Missionary Society, has elicited the following hearty words of approval from Mr. Spurgeon in the current number of the *Sword and Trowel*:—"We are delighted to hear that Mr. Sampson, of Folkestone, is to become secretary to the Baptist Union. We are truly sorry for Folkestone, since it will suffer a great loss by his removal; but Mr. Sampson is the man for the position, and indeed the only man who struck us at once, the moment his name was mentioned. If the brotherhood will once for all lay aside all differences, and go in heartily for real work for Jesus, something may yet come of the Union. Our heart was always with our late secretary, Mr. Booth, and though we are rather hard to please, we feel quite an enthusiasm for Mr. Sampson. Not that we had any hand in his selection, for we carefully abstain from any connection with the ecclesiastical politics of the denomination; but we admire the choice of the committee, and would ask our Baptist readers to seal it with many prayers for Mr. Sampson's success."

#### PRESBYTERIAN.

Letters lately received from Central Africa by friends in Regent-square congregation, London, contain cheering accounts of the progress of the Livingstonia Mission on Lake Nyassa. The silver communion service, which was the gift from Regent-square and sent out by Miss Waterston, had been used for the first time. We may further state that the children of Regent-square Church have agreed to pay for the support of an African boy to be named "Bob," who will be educated as a native missionary, first at Livingstonia and afterwards at Lovedale.

The Presbytery of Northumberland met on Tuesday at Tower-hill Church, Wooler—Rev. E. H. Davidson, Moderator. An application was made on behalf of the Rev. James Gray, of Cheviot-street Church, Wooler, who is at present laid aside from duty by serious illness, for sick supply. The deepest sympathy was expressed with Mr. Gray in his affliction, and arrangements were made for the supply of his pulpit for the next three months. The Presbytery then proceeded with the induction of the Rev. J. McLeish, formerly of Berwick, to Tower-hill Church, the service being taken part in by the Rev. Messrs. Addison, Davison, and Edwards. At the close, Mr. McLeish received a most cordial welcome from the congregation.

On Saturday afternoon the memorial-stone of Kelvingrove United Presbyterian Church, Glasgow, was laid by the Rev. Peter Rutherford, in the presence of a large number of spectators. The building will accommodate 900 sitters, and is estimated to cost about £15,000.

A special meeting of the Darlington Presbytery was held on Thursday, when the call from Hawick to the Rev. W. A. F. Johanan was considered. Parties having been heard, he intimated his acceptance of the call, and the Presbytery, with many expressions of regret, agreed to his translation. A call from Grosvenor-square Church, Manchester, to the Rev. H. Rose, M.A., of Stockton, was laid on the table. It was agreed to summon parties, and dispose of the call at the meeting of Presbytery to be held in Hull.

The Women's Missionary Association in connection with the English Church, although still in its infancy, is taking its place as a sister scheme of the denomination, and is developing an interest in foreign missions among the ladies which promises to become a power for good. We might state that the annual meeting of the Association will be held on the 29th inst., in the rooms of the Young Women's Christian Association, Old Cavendish-street. The work of the Association will be brought before the missionary meeting to be held in Exeter Hall, during the sittings of the Synod.

The English Synod meets in Dr. Fraser's Church Upper George-street, Bryanston-square, W., at half-past six in the evening of the 29th inst.

The Free Church Sustentation Fund receipts for the ten months amount to £131,470, a decrease of £2,145.

The Catholic Presbyterian for April opens with an ably-written paper from the pen of the Rev. Dr. Donald Fraser on "The Protestant Outlook." In the same number the following reference is made to the Pan-Presbyterian Council: "We are receiving letters from time to time indicating the great interest which the coming Council at Philadelphia is exciting in remote localities. The distant British Colonies are evidently looking on with lively interest. Our latest letter is from Hobart Town, Tasmania, indicating the appointment of a delegate from the Presbyterian Church of that colony. Everything shows that the formation of the Presbyterian Alliance has not taken place a day too soon, and especially that the weaker, more distant, more struggling Churches are looking up to it as the 'big brother,' who will back them and encourage them in their arduous struggle."

Some months since, the ladies of the Belgrave congregation forwarded about £140 worth of useful and fancy articles to Poona in aid of the Free Church Female Orphanage there. A bazaar was held at Poona with these articles, and proved a great success.

Several wealthy and liberal laymen of the Presbyterian Church in America have died during the past few weeks, and amongst others, Mr. Lennox, of New York, who had given upwards of half-a-million sterling to Presbyterianism in the United States.

As the tourist season will shortly commence some of our readers may be interested to learn that permanent services in connection with the Free Church of Scotland are held at Pau, Nice, Genoa, Naples, Leghorn, Florence, Lisbon, Lausanne. The spring and winter stations are—Montreux, Mentone, Cannes, Rome, Venice, Aix-les-Bains.

Among the latest news from the mission fields of China is the announcement of three births in the families of English Presbyterian missionaries—Mrs. Duffus, Mrs. Gauld, Mrs. Morison.

Rev. J. H. Wilson, writing in the *Free Church Record* for April, has something to say about mission finance. The first collection for missions in the Church of Scotland was made in 1826, and amounted to about £390. In 1833 the annual income had risen to £1,300. And now the fabulous figure of £10,000, which Dr. Duff was thought to have lost his senses for naming, has not only been reached, but far ex-

ceeded in the Free Church alone. In this jubilee year, adds Mr. Wilson, we cannot but look back thankfully on the progress that has been made.

The annual collection for the Home Mission and Church Extension Scheme falls to be taken on the 18th inst. throughout the congregations of the Free Church of Scotland. For some years past the expenditure has largely exceeded the income in this important branch of the Church's work. The committee aid by grants 34 mission stations, some of them in rural districts, others of them in populous mining and manufacturing centres; 32 extension congregations, which, having in most cases advanced from the position of stations, are in course of training and preparation for being raised to the platform of the equal dividend; 4 territorial missions, and 26 territorial charges, situated in the cities and large towns, designed to meet the spiritual destitution existing there, and dependent in great measure for their support on the funds of this scheme; and 85 congregational missions, conducted by probationers, students, and catechists. In addition to all this, it employs stated lay evangelists; makes special provision for the fishing stations in the north and west, and annually sends out a number of evangelistic deputies to all parts of the Church where their labours are most urgently required. It gives assistance, besides, in a variety of peculiar and necessitous cases. The miners' mission, for which a considerable sum was raised separately, falls also to be included within the range of its operations. It will thus be seen how extensive these operations are; and the whole of them are dependent on the funds put at the disposal of this committee.

The Free Church Mission Settlement at Lake Nyassa, established four years ago as a memorial of Dr. Livingstone, is working most successfully. A grammar of the Chinyanja language as spoken on the shores of the lake has been prepared by Mr. Alexander Riddell, of the Livingstonia Mission.

Rev. J. M. Thomson of the parish church Burntisland, while preaching in his own church on Sunday, suddenly fell back in a fainting condition. He was conveyed home, where he died in the course of the evening. Mr. Thomson's induction at Burntisland was only reported in last week's *Christian World*. He was for twenty years chaplain to the forces at Calcutta.

A new organ fitted up in West Parish Church, Aberdeen, at a cost of £700, was opened on Sunday.

The foundation-stone of a new Free Church was laid at Roslin on Saturday, by Mr. Stewart, of Thornhill.

Rev. William Hutton, of Moffat, has accepted a call from Grange-road Church, Birkenhead.

The Dundee United Presbyterian Presbytery has sustained the call from the School Wynd Church to the Rev. G. S. Skerrit, of Walsail.

Rev. Joseph Wood, pastor of the Plymouth congregation, has established a kind of cafe or coffee-house in Anstie-street, close to the Presbyterian Church, in the hope of benefiting the poor people who reside in that locality. The establishment was opened on Wednesday of last week, and promises to prove a helpful auxiliary to the other Christian work in which Mr. Wood's congregation are engaged.

The pastor of Clerk's-lane Evangelical Union Church, Kilmaronock, the Rev. Mr. Borland, on Sunday intimated his intention of severing his connection with the congregation and the denomination. Mr. Borland will, it is said, join the Established Church, and the congregation may perhaps follow the same course. A correspondent points out that it will be a rather curious theological turn to see the "mother church" of Morisonianism absorbed in the Establishment.

Rev. Dr. Saphir preached his last sermon as pastor of the Notting-hill congregation on Sunday morning. There was a large congregation, who seemed to feel the severance. Dr. Saphir preached with all his old force, merely making a passing allusion to his resignation of the congregation which he gathered, and has ministered to with such acceptance during the past seven years.

Rev. Robert Cowan, who has just settled at Nottingham, received an enthusiastic welcome at a service of the congregation held at the close of last week.

Mr. Talmage, says the *United Presbyterian* of Pittsburg, appeals with great energy to all who read and profit by his sermons to send him one dollar to help him get clear of the mountain of debt (£12,000) that hangs over his tabernacle church. "It is but right that they should do so," adds our contemporary. "Indeed, a dollar is too little for those to pay who have received so much inspiration as they often tell about, and we may expect to hear of large contributions going to Brooklyn from his many thousands of admirers. It does sound a little unusual to hear a church in New York City—where money is so abundant, and a church, too, which entertains such crowds of enthusiastic people—to hear it asking all the world for money to pay a debt upon its building."

#### WESLEYAN.

The Deptford Circuit, owing to removals and other causes, reports a decrease of members. There are various indications of financial prosperity.

The Hammersmith Circuit reports an increase of 25 for the year. An iron chapel has been purchased for Fulham; a chapel and school are to be erected at Twickenham; and a school chapel is in contemplation for Turnham-green.

The Bethnal-green Circuit has 680 members—an increase for the year of about 50.

The Buckingham Circuit reports a small increase of members.

In the Leighton Buzzard Circuit there has been a decrease in the membership, owing to numerous removals.

The Tunbridge Wells Circuit reports an increase of 27 members for the year. A site has been secured for a chapel at Pembury, and it is proposed to erect a second chapel at Tunbridge Wells.

King's Lynn Circuit has prospered remarkably during the year. The membership is 150 above last year's, and there are 113 on trial.

Newport and Cowes Circuit, Isle of Wight, has 579 members, the increase for the year having been 29. The prospects for the coming year are good.

In the Alford Circuit the membership shows a decrease, but there have been revivals in various places, and it is expected that from the 300 persons on

trial, and in junior classes, there will be considerable accessions.

The Louth Circuit reports a small increase for the quarter, and there are 174 persons on trial, besides 80 young people in Society classes.

The Howden Circuit, which has suffered severely from the long-continued trade and agricultural depression, is obliged to ask for the withdrawal of one of its ministers.

The Burton-on-Trent Circuit reports an increase of 26 members for the year, and there are nearly 80 persons on trial. The finances also show improvement.

The Lincoln Circuit, which has the large number of 2,170 members, is about to be divided. The membership shows a decrease, but there have been additions since the numbers were taken.

In the Bingley Circuit the membership shows an increase of 20 on the year, with about 70 on trial. Last year there was an increase of 70.

Kirkoswald Circuit reports an increase of 22 members for the year, with 47 on trial. The circuit debt has been cleared off.

Leigh, Lancashire, reports an increase of 14 members on the year, with 30 on trial and 147 in junior classes. It is intended to erect two school-chapels in the circuit.

The Bridge-street Circuit, Bolton, has a membership of 1,328; increase for the year 50.

Darlington Circuit reports an increase of 32 members for the year.

In the Hebden-bridge Circuit the finances are well-sustained, and though the membership for the year shows a slight loss, the outlook is very encouraging; the membership is 1,145, and there are 67 persons on trial.

The Devonport Circuit reports a small decrease. Cornwall again furnishes most satisfactory evidence of the stability and progress of Methodism within its bounds. From year to year, in spite of the serious drain by emigrations, &c., many of the circuits keep up, and even increase their number.

The Falmouth Circuit reports several hundred conversions, leaving a net gain in the membership of about 100 for the year, with 170 on trial. The number of members is 1,252.

The Cadishead Circuit reports an improvement as to finances, but the membership for the year is below last year's, although there has been an increase for the past two quarters.

Chester Circuit reports an increase of 74 for the year. The condition of things generally is hopeful, and a mission-room opened in one of the suburbs is doing well.

Successful missionary services have been held in the Sars-street Circuit, Sunderland. The collections were considerably larger than last year's.

Raglan Circuit, Glasgow, has kept up its membership. A testimonial was recently presented to the superintendent minister, the Rev. J. B. Alger.

Meetings have been held at various places in the South Wales District in aid of the Thanksgiving Fund, these including Merthyr Tydfil, Treherbert, Penygraig, Ferndale, Ystalyfera (where £120 has been contributed, and more is expected), and Aberdare, where the sum of £47 was secured.

A sermon was preached in the Wesleyan chapel, Sarnumham, by the Rev. R. Webb in the afternoon of Good Friday. A public tea was afterwards held, followed by a meeting, when addresses were delivered by the Rev. R. Webb and other local brethren. The collection was on behalf of the trust fund.

American papers just to hand announce the death of the Rev. Robert L. Daishell, D.D., corresponding secretary of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States.

On Good Friday there was a tea-meeting in the Eustone Wesleyan Chapel, and a service of song, with connective readings by Rev. W. Morgan.

Belmont-row Circuit, Birmingham, reports an increase of members and general prosperity. At the new school chapel in Warwick-road Sparkhill, a good congregation has been collected, and the various church agencies are being successfully worked.

The Leeds Wesley Circuit Sunday-school Union has held its third annual meeting. An encouraging report was presented, and papers were read by Mr. Cartwright, the Rev. S. R. Williams, Mr. Lee, Mr. Barraclough, and Mr. Goodrick. The choir sang several pieces.

The Greenock Circuit reports a small increase of members. It is proposed to erect a new chapel to supersede the existing one, which is somewhat dilapidated.—At Portgordon a remarkable revival has been experienced.

At Wiveliscombe on Friday, the annual tea-meeting was held, followed by Tipton's service of song, "The Nile to Nebo," the connective readings being given by the composer.

Faversham has 506 members, a small decrease being shown for the year, but an increase for the past quarter.

Colchester Circuit reports a small decrease of members for the year.

In the Ipswich Circuit the membership is 35 more than last year, and there are 66 on trial. The finances are in a healthy condition.

The Bishop Auckland Circuit has prospered greatly during the year. There are about 100 more members than last year, and several hundreds "on trial" and in preparatory classes give promise of further ingathering.

Newcastle (Blenheim-street) Circuit reports an increase of 24 for the year. It is proposed to erect a new chapel in a part of the town where religious accommodation is needed.

Hartlepool Circuit reports an increase of 48 members for the year. A mission chapel is to be erected at Throston.

#### UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCHES.

At the Quarterly Meeting of the Louth Circuit an increase of members was reported. The Rev. J. Boyes, M.A., of Shrewsbury, was invited to labour in the circuit during the next Connexion year, and has since consented. Mr. J. Burkill was unanimously recommended for admission into either the Theological Institute or the Connexional ministry. The Rev. C. Tregouing and Messrs. B. Longbottom and B. Motley were appointed to attend the district meeting to be held at Spalding in May, the Rev. W. Boyden being a member *ex officio*.

Rochdale, Baillie-street Circuit, reports an in-

crease of 28 members on the year. Leave for the erection of a new chapel at Smallbridge and Shaw-clough respectively.

A school bazaar in aid of the fund for erecting a new chapel at Openshaw, Manchester Third Circuit, was opened by Hugh Mason, Esq., J.P., of Ashton, assisted by the Revs. T. Hacking, H. T. Chapman, W. H. Bond, E. D. Green, and G. Turner, with Messrs. J. H. Crossfield, E. Tudor, jun., and S. Massey. The school has promised £1,000 towards the cost of the proposed building which is not to be begun until £2,000 are in hand. In weekly contributions the school has already raised £230, and the net proceeds of the bazaar, which extended over three days, with £50 from the chairman, are about £330, making a total of £550 now in the hands of the treasurer of the School Fund, towards the promised £1,000.

The Over-Darwen Circuit reports a decrease of 15 members on the year, and an income somewhat in excess of expenditure. The Rev. S. Beavan will represent the Circuit at the May District Meeting.

In consequence of a very careful revision of the register, the South Shields Circuit will report to the Annual Assembly a decrease of two members on the year. The churches generally are prospering. The last quarter's income was a little above the outlay, a novel and encouraging fact. Three new local preachers have been received on the plan. In addition to other efforts, £140 have lately been applied to the reduction of chapel debts.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Rochester Circuit was held on Monday last. The schedules showed a good increase of members on the year, and an improvement in the finances. Both the circuit ministers were re-elected representatives to the District Meeting to be held in London.

At the Quarterly Meeting of the Bristol North Circuit the returns showed a total membership of 414, being an increase of four on the quarter. The income was below the expenditure. The Rev. W. L. Smith and Mr. Garlick were elected representatives to the District Meeting.

A new school-room is about to be erected in connection with the chapel at Accrington, and the Rev. W. O. Lilley has lectured on "Robert Raikes," in aid of the building fund which now amounts to £170.

The Rev. J. B. Booth has declined an invitation to remain in the Middlesbrough Circuit.

New mission premises have been opened in Ningpo, China, at a cost of more than £900. Missionaries belonging to the English Episcopal, Baptist, Presbyterian, and American Societies assisted at the dedicatory service. On the first Sabbath after the opening five natives were baptized into the Christian faith.

The Rev. William H. Daring and his wife, late of Sierra Leone, arrived safely at the mission station, Ribe, East Africa, on January 12th, 1880.

The Framlingham Circuit reports an increase in the membership. Rev. G. D. Thompson was elected to attend the District Meeting.

On Good Friday a public meeting (preceded by a tea) was held in the chapel at Saxmundham, Suffolk, when addresses were delivered by the Rev. G. D. Thompson, circuit minister, Mr. G. Barker, of Wickham Market, and other friends, and a collection made on behalf of the chapel fund.

A fortnight of special services at Cowling, conducted by Mr. John Barnes, of Halifax, has resulted in a number of persons professing conversion.

At the Quarterly Meeting of the Spalding Circuit an increase in membership during the year was reported. Rev. E. Abbott and Mr. G. Shadford were appointed to represent the circuit at the District Meeting. It was resolved, by a large majority, to apply to the next Annual Assembly for leave to divide the circuit.

Five boys have recently been elected by examination to free scholarships at the Spalding Grammar School. Three of the boys are scholars in the Spalding Free Methodist Sunday-school.

At the Quarterly Meeting of the Third London Circuit, an increase of 13 members for the year was reported, while the income was equal to the expenditure. The Rev. Thomas Foster, whose health is precarious, is to be sent to Brighton for a month. A bazaar recently held at St. George's realised about £90. Plans have been accepted for vestries at Pigott-street Chapel, to cost nearly £400, of which £150 is in hand. The Good Friday Circuit tea and meeting at Limehouse was a great success.

The chapel anniversary at Mitcham (Croydon Circuit) was celebrated on Friday and Sunday. On the former day a tea and public meeting were held, presided over by J. S. McMaster, Esq. Interesting and practical addresses were delivered by the Revs. Thomas Newton (Connexional Book Steward), J. Barnes (Congregational), T. S. Clarke, and Mrs. Biles. On Sunday the pulpit was occupied by the Rev. Walter Gay, of Kilburn-park, who will remove from the Sixth London Circuit to Croydon in August next.

At the Accrington Quarterly Meeting just held, it was reported that the membership had risen to 375, with 28 on trial, being an increase on the books of 132 over the returns made when the present ministers came into the circuit a little more than 18 months ago. The Rev. James Barker and the Rev. W. C. Rank were appointed to represent the circuit at the forthcoming District Meeting at Southport.

At the Quarterly Meeting of the Bury Circuit the stewards reported an increase of 29 full members, with 150 on trial. The income exceeded the expenditure. The circuit was considered to be in a healthy and vigorous condition.

At the Darlington Quarterly Meeting the report for the last quarter showed that the receipts had been equal to the expenditure, with an increase of 30 full members. A resolution to unite the Spennymoor Mission with this circuit was confirmed. The Revs. R. Dimond, F. Marrs, and Councillor Elwin were appointed to represent the circuit in the next District Meeting to be held in Darlington.

#### METHODIST NEW CONNEXION.

On Sunday sermons were preached in North road Chapel, Durham, by the Rev. J. P. Goodwin, of West Hartlepool, on behalf of the Home Mission Fund. On Monday evening a public meeting was held, presided over by Mr. A. Thompson, and addressed by the Revs. E. J. Hope, C. F. Lea, Matthews, and J. P. Goodwin.

At Middlesbrough, as soon as the needful funds



can be realised, a new chapel will be erected, the congregation and school having outgrown the accommodation provided by the present iron structure.

— The Rev. J. Innocent, in the *Missionary Chronicle*, reports the baptism of 36 converts in the town of hang-Chia-Lien, in the district of Yang-Hsin, China.

— Great interest usually attaches to the Mission anniversary in the two Cornish circuits, St. Ives and Truro. A prominent minister of the denomination is usually appointed for a fortnight's sermons and meetings. This year the Rev. F. Jewell was the deputation. But his efficient services were unfortunately interrupted by a telegram, received on the Sabbath morning, after his preaching at St. Ives, announcing the sudden illness and death of one of his children. He was obliged to leave at once. Nevertheless, the meetings have been successful, and the proceeds about equal to last year's.

— A gracious work of revival is reported from Thorne. It began in the early part of the year in special services conducted by the Rev. W. Waine. The congregations increased every night, and several persons came forward to seek the Saviour and join the church. The pastor's son and daughter, Thomas S. and Miss Waine, have since preached sermons, when a gracious influence prevailed.

— The fifteenth anniversary of the opening of Grove-road Church was held on Friday, Joshua G. Heaps, Esq., of Leeds, in the chair. An encouraging report, indicating substantial progress in the number of seatholders and the state of the funds, was presented. The meeting was addressed by the Revs. W. Satchwell (Baptist), H. Dolamore (pastor), and others. Mr. Dolamore is leaving this station next conference.

— It appears that the name of the Rev. T. D. Crothers, as well as that of the Rev. T. Rider, is mentioned for the office of President of Conference. The former minister would have been unanimously elected last year, but for his unyielding determination not to accept the office on account of his delicate health.

— The new church at Elland has been opened by well-attended services. It is a spacious and beautiful structure, the finest in the town. The cost, including alterations to the schools, is about £8,000. The pulpit, with staircases at each side, is a fine and massive piece of woodwork; the open-timbered roof is very imposing, the acoustic properties of the place are very excellent, and a beautiful effect is produced by the stained glass, notably that in the large window at the west gable, and in the inner wall of the vestibule. At the opening service on Thursday, the 11th ult., the Rev. A. R. Pearson read the first lesson; the Rev. C. Bamford (pastor) read the second lesson; and the venerable Rev. Samuel Hulme, of Southport, preached the sermon, which was an able and eloquent refutation of the chief arguments of sceptical scientists. The text was Psalm xl. 3: "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" At the close of his sermon Mr. Hulme referred to his first visit to Elland, more than fifty years ago, in the first year of his ministry, when appointed to Halifax. He said he had seldom seen a place of worship more beautiful and convenient in its arrangements, and he had seen few equal to it. The architect and workmen appeared to have honestly fulfilled their contracts, and he did not know anywhere of a place of worship equal in its character which had cost so little. The evening sermon was preached to a full congregation by the Rev. W. O. Simpson (Wesleyan). The collections for the day amounted to £73. The Rev. W. J. Townsend, of Stockport, preached on the following Sunday.

— A tea and public meeting were held at Smithwick on Friday in aid of the new class-room fund. The chair was occupied by Mr. Douglas Jones, and addresses were delivered by the Revs. E. Gratton, F. H. Robinson, F. Elson, and Messrs. A. Taylor, H. Allen, and R. Parsons.

#### BIBLE CHRISTIAN.

— Mrs. S. M. Terrett reports that she has obtained £327 towards the 1,000 guineas she has promised to raise on behalf of the new chapel at Bodminster, Bristol.

— During the last few months more than 200 persons have professed to be converted at Penryn and other places in the Hicks Mill Circuit.

— More than 150 converts have recently been added to the church at Bagle, Trezease, and Mount Pleasant, in the Bodmin Circuit.

— The annual effort on behalf of the Millow Chapel, Cumberland, has produced upwards of £46 net. At Haverigg 40 persons have lately been admitted as candidates for church fellowship.

— The eleventh anniversary of the Juvenile Missionary Society was held at Bodminster, Bristol, on Good Friday; 250 took tea. Evening service largely attended; Henry Wethered, Esq., presided. Financial result, £89 15s. 7d. In this work Mr. and Mrs. Terrett take a deep interest in memory of their dear children, now folded with the Good Shepherd.

— The quarterly meeting of the Bristol Circuit was held on 23rd ult. The report presented by the pastor showed the circuit to be in a most encouraging condition. The Revs. A. Trengrove and J. Carvuth were cordially invited to remain in the circuit another year.

— The Quarterly Meeting of the Launceston Circuit was held last week, and passed off pleasantly. Finances satisfactory. Many have been added to the society during the quarter. Very cordial and unanimous invitations were given to the two ministers, the Rev. J. B. Vanstone and the Rev. J. Stephens, to remain another year. The former, however, felt him self unable to accept at present.

— Very successful chapel anniversary services have been held at Tinney. Sermons by the Rev. J. B. Vanstone and the Rev. C. Ware. Collections ahead of last year. The bazaar realised between £40 and £50. The debt will be reduced by £10.

— Northpetherwin Chapel anniversary was held on Good Friday, with great success. In the evening the Rev. J. Stephens lectured to a crowded congregation, on "Billy Bray, the King's Son." The chair was taken by Mr. J. Dudge, of Lifton.

— The Rev. T. E. Mundy has been invited to Torquay, the Rev. J. Tremelling to Truro, the Rev. W. Luke to Jubilee (London), the Rev. M. Brokenshire to Kilburn.

— The Rev. Guy Warne, of Tavistock, has resigned, and left the circuit.

— A new chapel has been opened at Newport, Isle

of Wight. The dedicatory sermon was preached by the President, the Rev. J. Dymond, of Plymouth. Total cost, £5,900.

**THE "SCIENTIFIC FRONTIER."**—It is worthy of notice how the opinions of the "scientific frontier" party are for ever changing as to the advantages of the respective routes into Afghanistan. Not many months ago they were thoroughly disenchanted of their preference for the Candahar route, which the *Pioneer* assured us was quite a mistake. The highway from India into the heart of Afghanistan was by the Kurram Valley. Then came General Roberts's second advance, and the discovery that it was practically impossible to keep open a safe line of communications by the Kurram and the Shuturgardan, and judgment was given in favour of the old, ill-omened, but only practical highway through the Khyber and Jugdulluk passes. That was the opinion in winter, but as the season advances it is remembered that last summer the variations of temperature along the Khyber route were quite disastrous to the health of the troops, and it is now intended—so it is said—to make the Kurram our main line of communication with Cabul. Perhaps the principal lesson taught by all this vacillation is—how admirably impenetrable was the old "hap-hazard" frontier which we have broken down, and how very difficult, if not impossible, it is to get beyond it to any other tenable frontier.—*The Friend of India.*

**MARRIAGE OF THE REV. NEWMAN HALL.**—The following paragraph appeared in yesterday's *Times*:—The *Staffordshire Christian Journal* gives an account of this minister's marriage, which took place on Monday morning, the bride being Miss Knipe, of London, the lady to whom Mr. Hall admitted at the divorce trial that he had communicated an intention of marriage, subject to the success of his suit. The Rev. Dr. Allon, of Islington, performed the ceremony, assisted by Mr. Grainger. Mr. Hall's family was largely represented, and the elders of the Church were also present. The ceremony took place at an unusually early hour.

#### BIRTHS.

BORVEY.—March 23, at Flaxley Abbey, the wife of Sir Thomas H. Crawley Bovery, Bart., of a son.  
DE VEE GOSKEY.—March 13, at Staines, the wife of the Rev. H. De Vere Goskey, of a son.  
GRAMAN.—March 23, at the Vicarage, Boxley-heath, Kent, the wife of the Rev. G. Graman, of a son.  
HOPE.—On the Feast of the Annunciation, at Chadworth Vicarage, Gloucestershire, Katharine Emily, wife of the Rev. Sackville Hope, of a son.  
JOHNSTON.—March 25, at Clyde View, Ardrossan, the wife of George Johnston, of a son.  
MARTIN.—March 20, at Place Dupuis, Pau, Basses Pyrénées, France, the wife of Waldyve A. H. Martin, of 14, Mansion-place, Queen's-gate, of a son.  
MAXWELL.—March 9, at Sharon Mount, Northenden, the wife of the Rev. J. P. Maxwell, of Over, of a son.  
METZGER.—March 20, at Bologna, Italy, the wife of the Rev. Francis Paul Metzger, of a daughter, stillborn.  
WALTER.—March 24, at Welland Hall, Spalding, the wife of W. S. Walter, late Captain the Black Watch, of twins, son and daughter.

#### MARRIAGES.

ALLEN-BENNETT.—March 20, at the City Temple, Holborn Viaduct, by the Rev. J. Hoyle, Edmund Allen, to Annie, second daughter of the late William Bennett, of 100, Fetter-lane, Holborn.  
ARVES-DUNCLECK.—March 24, at the Withington Presbyterian Church, by the Rev. C. M. M. M. M., William Angus, of Eccles, to Mary Edith, eldest daughter of Henry Duncleck, of Blinwood, Didsbury.  
BENSON-GOOD.—March 27, at the Derby-road Baptist Chapel, Bootle, Liverpool, by the Rev. Z. T. Down, pastor, Mr. Joseph Benson, of Waterloo, to Kate, third daughter of Andrew Good, of Kirkdale, Liverpool.  
DUNCLECK-ORRME.—March 18, at the residence of the bride's parents, Tomkinsville, Staten Island, New York, by the Rev. Dr. Rockwell, Thomas Henry, eldest son of Henry Duncleck, Blinwood, Didsbury, to Marie Louise, eldest daughter of F. G. Orrme, M.D., formerly of Dresden, Germany, and of Concord, New Hampshire, United States.  
EADIE-GRAHAM.—March 25, at Culebrook-row Presbyterian Church, London, by the Rev. J. Thain Davidson, D.D., assisted by the Rev. T. S. Graham, M.A., Lissell, co. Fermanagh, brother of the bride, Dr. Eadie, to Lizzie, daughter of Samuel Graham, Carnaghmore, co. Antrim.  
FINN-LAWRENCE.—March 27, at the Church of St. Matthew and St. James, Molesley Hill, Liverpool, by the Rev. James Lawrence, M.A., William Ives Finn to Emma Robinson, daughter of the late John Lawrence, of Liverpool.  
FOSSY-HASSELL.—March 24, at St. Anne's, Limehouse, by the Rev. James Charlesworth, Ernest Fossey, of Clapton, son of C. H. Fossey, Esq., of Burdett-road, Limehouse, to Sarah, eldest daughter of Alfred Hassell, of the same parish. No cards.  
GARTHELL-GALE.—At the Parish Church, Caterham, by the Rev. J. Ground, Chaplain of the Asylum, William Fortmouth, eldest son of J. R. Gartell, of Sherborne, Dorset, to Olive, only daughter of William Frederic Gale.  
HALL-KNIFE.—March 20, at Christ Church, Westminster-bridge-road, by the Rev. Henry Allon, D.D., assisted by the Rev. Henry Grainger and the Rev. Edward White, the Rev. Newman Hall, L.L.B., Minister of the same church, to Harriet Mary Margaret, eldest daughter of Edward S. Knipe, Esq., of Elvaston-place, Queen's-gate, Kensington.  
LAW-BRYDEN.—March 24, at Old Greyfriars Church, Edinburgh, by the Rev. John Glass, M.A., John Law, to Rose Margaret, younger daughter of J. M. Bryden, 71, Great King-street.  
ROW-CRITCHELL.—March 25, at Brainslee Congregational Church, by the Rev. Thos. Simon, George Cummins, eldest son of Mr. Fredk. Row, to Margaret Elizabeth, third daughter of the late Francis Berrington Critchall, all of Brainslee.  
STOREY-VERDIE.—March 27, at the Derby-road Baptist Chapel, Bootle, Liverpool, by the Rev. Z. T. Down, minister, J. W. Storey, of Kirkdale, Liverpool, to Hannah Verdie, of Northwich, Cheshire.  
SWAINSBURY-CHIFFERFIELD.—March 25, at Hoxton Academy Chapel by the Rev. C. Fleming Williams, David William, only surviving son of the late Samuel and Caroline Jane Swainsbury, to Sarah, younger daughter of Mr. Thomas Chifferfield, of Hendon.  
WALL-RLUNDEN.—March 27, at West Peckham, Kent, by the Rev. R. Swan, J. J. Wall, youngest son of John Wall, H. M. C. London, to Lillie Rose (Lily), second daughter of Robert Blunden, Oxon-Hoath Mills, Tunbridge, Kent.

#### DEATHS.

BRIDGEMAN.—March 23, at St. Leonard's-on-Sea, Louisa, wife of the late Hon. and Rev. Henry Edmund Bridgeman.  
BROWN.—March 21, at the Green, Matlock, the Rev. John Brown, formerly Congregational minister at Wirksworth and Hambleton, aged 60.  
BROWNING.—March 25, at Northgate, Oxford, aged 81, J. S. Browning, for 40 years Alderman and J.P. of that City.

CORRETT.—March 23, at the Garrison Hospital, Hauler, Brigade-Surgeon A. P. M. Corbett, M.D., aged 49, dearly loved.

CROFT.—March 27, Sarah, the beloved wife of John Croft, of Brownhills, near Walsall, after 4 years' great suffering from cancer, borne with Christian resignation.

GERARD.—March 23, at 3, Balmoral-terrace, Aberdeen, the Rev. Alexander Gerard, L.L.D., late of Robert Gordon's Hospital, in his 60th year.

GILLON.—March 21, at Garden Reach, Ambhurst-road, Hackney, Rosa Louise (Lily), infant daughter of J. Bruce and Louisa Gillon, aged one year and three days.

HALE.—March 28, at Angleside (late of New-place), Longfield, Thomas Hale, aged 60, for some 25 years Guardian of the Poor of that parish.

HOWARD.—March 23, at Stewkley, Charlotte Windsor, last surviving daughter of the Rev. T. Howard, Rector of Hozeston, Bucks.

JONES.—March 23, at Pau, France, Margaret, daughter of the late Wm. Arthur Jones, Esq., J.P., of Tasson.

KIDSTON.—March 27, at 1, Chesham-road, Clapham, Agnes Kidston, surviving daughter of the late Rev. William Kidston, D.D., of Glasgow.

KNIGHTS.—March 19, at Leiston, Mr. Samuel Knights, in the 80th year of his age, deservedly respected by all who knew him.

MARTINEAU.—March 27, at 90, Jermyn-street, John Frederick Martineau, Esq., of 2, Paper-buildings, Temple, aged 61.

MORGAN.—March 25, Mrs. Morgan, the beloved wife of the Rev. Professor Morgan, Carmarthen. Friends will please accept this intimation.

MURPHY.—March 23, at 13, Newington Hall-villas, Mr. M. Murphy, Secretary of the Aged Pilgrims' Friend Society, aged 68. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

PARDON.—March 24, at the Abbey, Burton-on-Trent, Catherine Dorothy Pardon, the faithful and attached servant and friend of Mrs. Thornwell for a period extending over 33 years, aged 61.

PERKS.—March 25, Martha Perks, widow, aged 81, for upwards of 50 years a faithful servant of the late Mrs. Beckwith, 23, Eaton-place.

ROBINSON.—From an accident at the Crystal Palace Station, Capt. Henry Luke Robinson, formerly of the 20th Bombay N.I., third son of the late William R. Robinson, Esq., of Hyde-park-terrace, London.

TURNBULL.—March 23, at his residence, High Barnes, Sunderland, Thomas S. Turnbull, Mayor of Sunderland, aged 52 years.

WELLS.—March 25, at his residence, Preston, Charles Wells, of North-east, Brighton, and formerly of Ludgate-hill, London, in the 65th year of his age.

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(Knight of the Order of Leopold of Belgium and of the Legion of Honour)

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Professor Curtius, accompanied by a Government land surveyor, has left Berlin for Greece to complete the archaeological exploration of Olympia. For this purpose the Emperor has most generously granted the sum of £4,000, so that the congenial work can now be worthily proceeded with. A telegram from Olympia reports the recent excavation of a Roman torso, that of a flute-playing youth, as well as the countenance of a centaur, together with numerous fragments of the statue of a god over life-size.

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CONVULSIONS IN TEETHING are prevented by the use of Mrs. Johnson's Soothing Syrup. It contains no narcotic, and gives speedy relief. See Barclay and Sons' name on stamp. Of all chemists, 2s. 9d. per bottle.

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**TETTENHALL COLLEGE, STAFFORDSHIRE.**

HEAD-MASTER:  
ALEXANDER WAUGH YOUNG, Esq., M.A. (London), Gold Medalist in Classics; late Andrew's Scholar and First Prizeman in Higher Senior Mathematics of University College, London; Fellow of University College, London.

SECOND MASTER:  
JAMES SHAW, Esq., B.A. (London), First in the First Class at both First and Second B.A. Examinations.

AS-ISTED BY NINE OTHER MASTERS.

There are five Scholarships connected with the College.  
Senior Tettenhall Scholarship ... £ 31 10 0  
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Directors' Scholarship ... 26 5 0  
The Shaw Scholarship ... 30 0 0  
The Mander Scholarship ... 30 0 0

There is a large swimming bath on the College premises, for use throughout the year, being warmed in cold weather. There is a well-equipped gymnasium, and there are three good fields for cricket and football.

Boys are prepared for the Universities, the Professions, and for Commerce.

For particulars as to Scholarships, &c., apply to the Head Master at the College; or to the Secretary and Treasurer, Rev. Philip F. Rowe, M.A., Tettenhall, near Wolverhampton.

SECOND TERM from May 1st to July 31st.

**TUDOR HALL LADIES' COLLEGE, FOREST HILL, SYDENHAM, LONDON, S.E.**

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PRINCIPALS—Mr. and Mrs. INGHAM and the Misses CONNAH.

Ten miles from London, and three from the Crystal Palace. Public Examinations are not prepared for. The system upon which the school is worked is entirely new, and each succeeding year testifies to its success. In addition to the usual branches of English, which are taught in a manner both efficient and interesting, Drawing, Music, and the Continental Languages receive considerable attention, and with valuable results. Each class has a separate room and teacher. A gymnasium has been added, and outdoor exercise is much encouraged. Prospectuses, with names of Referees and full particulars, may be obtained from the Principals.

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Established 1831, for the sons of Ministers & Missionaries; the sons of Laymen have been admitted since 1855.

Head Master—Rev. W. FIELD, M.A. (London) in Classics and Philosophy, Williams Divinity Scholar, assisted by seven Masters.

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J. R. WOLSTENHOLME, M.A., Wakefield, Hon. Sec.  
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"The School itself is an excellently-contrived building where ... nothing has been spared to provide fine, lofty, and well-furnished classrooms. I examined the dormitories, lavatories, &c., and found them superior to most that I have inspected. The situation cannot well be surpassed for healthiness."

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Chemical Laboratory and detached Infirmary. Several boys have recently matriculated at the University of London in the First Division.

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Pupils were successful last year in Board of Trade, Preliminary Medical, Cambridge Local, and College of Preceptors' Examinations. Distinction obtained in Euclid, Geography, History and Zoology. A comfortable home, constant supervision and thorough education. Pupils meet after the Easter vacation on Wednesday, April 7. Next term commences April 26. Prospectus on application to Rev. J. B. Blomfield.

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**FROGMORE COLLEGE, RICKMANSWORTH (18 miles from London).**  
Classical and Commercial Education. Home comforts. Extensive recreation grounds.  
NEXT TERM begins 6th APRIL.  
For prospectus apply to the Principals.  
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Conducted by Mrs. MARTIN and her Daughter. Assisted by Masters, and Qualified English and Foreign Governesses.

Pupils prepared annually for the Cambridge Local and other Examinations.

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Established 1829, by the late Mr. Sunderland. Prospectuses, &c., will be forwarded on application to DANIEL F. HOWORTH, Principal.

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MR. JOHN STEWART has the pleasure of informing his friends that he has secured the help of the Rev. B. B. WILLIAMS, late of Chichester.

THE NEW LOWER SCHOOL, for boys of 7 to 11 years of age, is under the care of Mrs. Butler (wife of Mr. Edward A. Butler, B.A., B.Sc.).  
EXAMINATION RESULTS for 1879.  
London University, First B.A. ... 1  
" Matriculation in Honours ... 3  
" 1st Division ... 3  
Cambridge Local Examination, Seniors ... 8  
" Juniors ... 14  
College of Preceptors, First Class ... 23  
" Second ... 23  
" Third ... 23  
" With the 1st Prize for Mathematics.

Claremont, Cliftonville, Margate.  
ENGLISH, FRENCH, and GERMAN BOARDING SCHOOL for YOUNG LADIES.

—This establishment is recommended for its educational efficiency, home comforts, good management, splendid situation, and recreation grounds. The Lady Principal is assisted by Professors, English and Foreign Governesses, and responsible Matrons. Pupils are received to study accomplishments and household management. Cooking is taught by a lady diploma from South Kensington.

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The success of this School for thirty-eight years arises from the fact that great attention is paid to subjects required in commercial life. Boys have excelled in good writing, arithmetic, French, book-keeping, and mercantile correspondence. Pupils from this School have passed the Examinations of the Pharmaceutical Society and the College of Preceptors, and the Oxford and Cambridge Local Examinations in Honours. Cricket, fishing, safe bathing, &c. References to parents in all parts of England. Inclusive terms twenty-two or twenty-four guineas. For views and prospectus apply to the Principals, Messrs. J. and J. W. Marsh.

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Mrs. Pinckney (daughter of the late Professor Barker, of Spring-hill College, Moseley, Birmingham), informs her friends that she is changing her residence, and is prepared to receive as Boarders six Young Ladies to educate with those already under her care. Terms on application.

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CREDIT of half the first five Annual Premiums allowed on whole-term Policies on healthy lives not over 60 years of age.  
ENDOWMENT ASSURANCES granted, without profits, payable at death or on attaining a specified age.  
INVALID LIVES assured at rates proportioned to the risk.  
CLAIMS paid thirty days after proof of death.

BONUS.  
The Reversionary Bonus at the Quinquennial Division in January, 1877 (amounting to £357,014), averaged 50 per cent., and the Cash Bonus 30 per cent., on the premiums paid in the five years.

The Next Division of Profits will take place in January, 1882, and persons who effect New Policies before the end of June next will be entitled at that division to one year's additional share of profits over later entrants.

REPORT, 1879.  
The 55th Annual Reports, and the latest Balance Sheets rendered to the Board of Trade, can be obtained at either of the society's offices, or of any of its agents.  
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In 40,000 fully paid-up Shares of £25. For the Purchase and Sale of Productive and Progressive HOUSE PROPERTY, and Improving the Dwellings of the Working Classes on the Self-supporting Principle. Registered March 15, 1876.

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FIVE ISSUES, completing 20,000 Shares, amounting to Half Million, at premiums amounting to £40,000.

The SIXTH ISSUE of 4,000 £25 Shares at £5 per Share Premium. Nearly half has already been allotted, the remainder in course of allotment.

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New annual premium income ... 13,099

BUSINESS IN FORCE.  
24,283 policies in force for ... £4,437,084  
Annual premium income ... 133,446

DEATH CLAIMS, &c.  
Death claims, including matured policies and bonuses paid in year ... £53,750  
From commencement paid for claims ... 485,534

ACCUMULATED FUND.  
Added in the year ... £60,689  
Increasing the fund to ... 624,446

Average Reversionary Bonus for 24 years, ONE AND A QUARTER per Cent. per Annum.

Policies payable in lifetime. Separate use Policies. Non-forfeiture Policies by Limited Payments.

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5 per Cent. for Five Years and upwards.  
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Less than One Year according to Bank rates.

Deposit Notes issued under the Seal of the Company, with cheques or coupons attached for half-yearly interest.

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WILL be glad to forward his new Pamphlet, gratis and post free, which explains the only perfectly painless system of adapting ARTIFICIAL TEETH

(Protected by Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent), which have obtained

FIVE PRIZE MEDALS, LONDON, 1862; PARIS, 1867; PHILADELPHIA, 1876 VIENNA, 1873; AND NEW YORK, 1853.

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S. G. HUTCHINS.  
By appointment Surgeon-Dentist to the Queen. G. H. Jones, Esq.

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Best Wallend, 25s. cash; Wallend—Class B, 22s. cash; Best Inland, 22s. cash; Inland, Class B, 19s. cash; Derby Brights, 19s.; Nuts, 18s.; Best Coke, 12s. Cash on delivery.

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Cures Ulcerated Sores on the Neck. Cures Ulcerated Sore Legs. Cures Blackheads, or Pimples on the Face. Cures Scabby Sores, Cancerous Ulcers. Cures Blood and Skin Diseases. Cures Glandular Swellings. Clears the Blood from all impure Matter. From whatever cause arising.

As this mixture is pleasant to the taste, and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, the Proprietor solicits sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

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